STUDENT / PARENT LETTER TEMPLATE

PLEASE SEND THIS EMAIL BELOW TO YOUR UNIVERSITY. IF THEY STILL INSIST THAT VACCINATION IS REQUIRED TO CONTINUE WITH YOUR STUDIES THEN PLEASE LET US KNOW.

(PLEASE AMEND THE LETTER TO SUIT)

Dear [ ]

I am writing to you with my concerns regarding [ University] still requesting vaccine status as a condition of acceptance on to a course and/ or are still informing students they will not be able to have face to face contact without having had at least two doses of the COVID 19 vaccine.

As you will be aware, the Health Secretary, Sajid Javid, announced in parliament on 31 January that the need for vaccine as a condition of employment was being halted pending consultation.   He then wrote to all NHS trusts and health care settings asking them to stop all processes which were in place to implement this policy and in line with this, the requirement to share vaccine status with employers was no longer valid.  It has now confirmed that as of 15th March that the mandate will be revoked, so vaccination is no longer required. Given that there is no legislation in place to mandate this vaccine within trusts and health care settings then why am I required to be vaccinated to continue my studies as this is clearly discriminating myself based on my own personal medical information.

You may also be aware that in support of this, an organisation called NHS100K that was set up to support employees and students facing mandatory vaccines, also wrote to all universities requesting that they adhere to the announcement made by the Health Secretary asking them to stop this process or any proceedings already started to introduce such a mandate. Happily, they did receive positive responses from several universities confirming that this requirement will be dropped for all health care related courses in line with government legislation.

However, it is disappointing to see that this university is still making a request for vaccination status to remain on courses and subsequently graduate even though trusts nationally adhered to this request and halted vaccines as a condition of employment.

This will have massive implications again for the future of education within medicine and health care and subsequently the workforce within the NHS.

There is growing evidence of potentially life-threatening side effects too associated with the vaccine as reported by the MHRA Yellow Care Reporting system. There is no long-term safety data available and plenty of data is available to show this vaccine does not stop transmission so it seems unreasonable to expect me to take this risk.  Students who have thus far declined vaccination have done so for a variety of personal, clinical and ethical reasons, as is their right. Informed consent and bodily autonomy are at the heart of our training. This should also be relevant to students who will be expected to have this respect for their future patients.

Bearing all of this in mind, I am looking for reassurance that you will not be insisting on the COVID-19 vaccine as a condition of continued education and qualification and that the vaccine status along with all medical history remains the personal business only of myself and my general practitioner . If it is not proportionate for existing NHS staff, it is certainly not proportionate in a young, healthy population of university students who are at minimal risk of COVID. We hope you are giving particular consideration to the risk vs benefit in your students and the potential repercussions should any of them come to harm.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Kind Regards,