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March 7, 2021

Dr. Courtney Phillips, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Health
P.O. Box 629
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629

Dear Dr. Phillips,

We are writing out of great concern regarding the vast number of adverse events following Covid-19 vaccinations that are going unreported. We have been contacted by numerous medical professionals concerned that they are seeing patients with altered mental status, suspecting vaccine reactions, but cannot confirm vaccination status because of lack of access to the necessary medical records and a lack of reporting. We have also been contacted by individuals that have family members who have died following a Covid-19 vaccination and no Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) reports have been filed, which is legally required.

As all covid vaccines currently being administered are under emergency use authorization, it is imperative that all adverse reactions are reported, but for that to happen healthcare workers need detailed instructions regarding reporting criteria and access to the needed medical information - vaccination records via Louisiana Immunization Network (LINKS). There is much frustration with not being able to determine if a patient, who is unable to communicate, has just received a Covid-19 vaccine.

Also concerning is the determination of causality by practitioners, especially in long-term care facilities. The fact sheets provided to healthcare workers stipulate that it is mandatory to report serious adverse events “**irrespective of attribution to vaccination**”¹ Causality is not to be determined by healthcare workers even if the adverse event is thought to be due to “natural causes.” If a patient dies between doses, or even weeks after the last dose, healthcare workers are legally required to file a report to VAERS as stipulated by federal statute 42 USC § 300aa-1.²

Examples of serious adverse events required to be reported include “life-threatening adverse event; inpatient hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization; a persistent or significant incapacity or substantial

¹ <http://labeling.pfizer.com/ShowLabeling.aspx?id=14471>

² <https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title42/chapter6A/subchapter19&edition=prelim>

disruption of the ability to conduct normal life functions; a congenital anomaly/birth defect; an important medical event that based on appropriate medical judgement may jeopardize the individual and may require medical or surgical intervention to prevent one of the outcomes listed above.”

As consumer advocates, it is our hope that these drugs will be given due respect for their experimental nature. Healthcare workers should be encouraged to discuss these very possible reactions with candor. That healthcare workers are contacting us with concerns out of fear of retribution in the workplace is immensely distressing.

Information regarding a patient’s recent Covid-19 vaccination should be available to practitioners upon admittance to a hospital or emergency room, which will in turn aid in proper diagnosis and treatment. Accurate and unbiased reporting of adverse events is also vitally important to policy makers and manufacturers.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration,

Jill Hines
Fiorella Trapani
Co-Directors
Health Freedom Louisiana

cc: Governor John Bel Edwards
Members of the Louisiana State Legislature
Attorney General Jeff Landry