



## POSITION STATEMENT

### REGARDING MANDATORY VACCINATIONS AGAINST COVID-19

American Nurses Association-Michigan (ANA-MI) strongly subscribes to the safety and protection of self and others regarding the transmission and reduction of risk related to the COVID-19 virus. It is the nurse's professional responsibility to instigate efforts to protect patients and themselves. We strongly encourage nurses and other health care professionals to be vaccinated for COVID-19, as it has been (and continues to be) shown to be safe and effective against COVID and its variants, recognizing that currently the great majority of COVID hospitalizations and deaths occurring are among the unvaccinated.

While the COVID-19 vaccine is a means to prevent the transmission of the virus, it is not intended to replace other safe infection transmission mitigation efforts, including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and social distancing. Toward that end, we believe that nurses and health care professionals should have adequate access to PPE to provide safe protection according to the most current scientific guidelines.

Despite the science of mRNA vaccines and treatments being both safe and effective for more than forty years in health promotion and disease prevention, the choice to vaccinate for COVID-19 is an individual one. Regardless of choice, nurses should not be retaliated against if they choose to not be vaccinated. Nurses should understand the health risks of choosing to not be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus and potential impact to employment based on individual employer requirements.



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