



ASIAN MEDICINE

ACUPUNCTURISTS OF ARIZONA

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June 18, 2021

Office of Arizona Governor Doug Ducey
State Capitol Executive Tower
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Ducey,

As the initiating party of this letter, the Asian Medicine Association of Arizona (AMAAZ), writes to you on behalf of the integrative and traditional medicine health professional community in Arizona (collectively, Acupuncture & Asian Medicine, Chiropractic Care, and Homeopathic and Integrative Medicine) to thank you for your Executive Order 2021-15 protecting medical choice and access to Arizona's public universities and community colleges for all students.

NOTE: This letter is not in opposition to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the COVID-19 Vaccine or any of the FDA Approved Vaccines. We understand the societal benefits of FDA Approved Vaccines which have reduced preventable infectious diseases to an all-time low, and that fewer people no longer experience the devastating effects of measles, pertussis, and other illnesses.

The Asian Medicine community is composed of licensed acupuncturists and medical students in Arizona, and two nationally accredited acupuncture & Asian medical colleges in Phoenix and Tucson -- the Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine & Acupuncture (PIHMA) and the Arizona School of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (ASAOM), respectively. While the field of integrative and traditional medicine practitioners may be smaller in size, compared to that of conventional western medicine practitioners, we exercise an unrivaled amount of love for humanity using a form of healthcare that is centuries old and still used by much of the world's population because it is safe, effective, and cost-effective.

We truly appreciate your focus on this unfortunate rapidly spreading trend for public universities and community colleges to apply invasive restrictions and a mask mandate on our college-age students to pressure them into receiving the FDA EUA COVID-19 Vaccine before safety trials are even complete and FDA approval conferred. This inclination to mandate without recognition of and allowance for other viable and effective choices and alternatives is plaguing our academic institutions across the nation and is akin to the spread of COVID-19, itself – creating a pandemic of discrimination and persecution.

The data from the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) shows there have been some deadly and harmful consequences from these vaccines. As injuries mount, this last week, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced an emergency meeting for today, June 18th, to discuss the, albeit still rare, growing number of heart inflammation cases appearing higher than expected in adolescent and young adults after the second FDA EUA COVID-19 Vaccine. This is the college-age student and dominant age group of the students these publicly funded academic institutions wish to coerce into a vaccine which can be harmful to them. Meanwhile, CDC modeling shows a 99.8% chance of survival from COVID-19 for this specific age range among all infected individuals, symptomatic and asymptomatic. This means that looking to other alternatives for staying healthy and immune is warranted, especially where they may be safer and just as effective.

Yet, our taxpayer-funded academic institutions ignore the information available and the other options offered by traditional and integrative medicines and other holistic treatments (as well as conventional western medical drugs that are effective in treating COVID-19), in favor of the singular option of a vaccine available only under an emergency

access mechanism and where the EUA states, “[t]here is no U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19.”

Until this factor changes, there is no reason to forcibly persuade anyone into an FDA EUA COVID-19 Vaccine to learn at any publicly funded academic institution, especially where there are safer and less invasive alternatives.

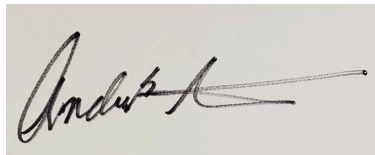
We agree with your statement that “the vaccine works, and we encourage Arizonans to take it. But it is a choice, and we need to keep it that way.”

Please know we are happy to continue this discussion at the legislature when both chambers would like to consider a proposal to codify your Executive Order.

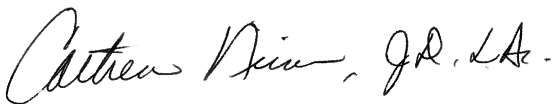
Sincerely,



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/s/ **Lisa E. Platt**

Lisa Platt
Executive Director, Arizona Homeopathic and Integrative Medical Association



Cc:
President Karen Fann, Arizona State Senate
Speaker Rusty Bowers, Arizona State House of Representatives
Senator Nancy Barto, Chair, Committee on Health and Human Services
Representative Joanne Osborn, Chair, Committee on Health and Human Services