

**Source Evaluation**

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Chamberlain University

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## **Mandatory Vaccination**

**Thesis Statement:** As a result of public's lower perception or complacency of risks related to vaccine preventable illnesses, it is necessary to enforce mandatory vaccination to increase uptake of vaccine to protect the vulnerable population groups from contracting such diseases.

### **Part 1: Annotation**

**WHO. (2021). *COVID-19 and mandatory vaccination: Ethical considerations and caveats.***

**World Health Organization. WHO/2019-**

**nCoV/Policy\_brief/Mandatory\_vaccination/2021.1**

This World Health Organization's policy brief views vaccines as vital in protecting the public against the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The World Health Organization acknowledges that various states globally are currently ratifying mandatory COVID-19 vaccination to increase vaccine uptake and support the attainment of public health goals. The World Health Organization is an international health regulatory organ that offers various considerations and caveats that member states must explicitly evaluate before ratifying mandatory vaccination. WHO urges global governments only to consider mandatory vaccination if it will promote public health objectives. WHO recommends the involvement of legitimate public health authorities in determining the viability of mandatory vaccination. When it comes to serious public health problems such as COVID-19, mandatory vaccination becomes important because it helps in protecting the larger vulnerable population from contracting the virus. The World Health Organization believes that when many people are vaccinated, the capacity of acute health system will be protected.

**Savulescu, J. (2020). Good reasons to vaccinate: Mandatory or payment for risk? *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 47(2), 78-85. <https://doi.org/10.1136/medethics-2020-106821>**

As a philosopher, Savulescu conducted a research to understand ethics related to compulsory immunization. Savulescu adopts Stuart Mill's neoliberal theory on liberty restriction. He argues that government's coercion to the public to get vaccinated is important in protecting the vulnerable people from contracting the virus. Savulescu's argument is in line with bioethics appeal that seeks to protect an infected single individual from affecting the large population. Highly infectious vaccine preventable diseases involve substantial consequences on economic, health and wellbeing. Savulescu supports mandatory vaccination by arguing that vaccines are safe and the public should not fear getting vaccinated.

**Mills, M. C., & Rüttenauer, T. (2021). The impact of mandatory COVID-19 certificates on vaccine uptake: Synthetic control modelling of six countries.**

**<https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.10.08.21264718>**

Mills is a sociology professor at Oxford and Nuffield College while Rüttenauer is a sociologist at Oxford University. Mills and Rüttenauer used COVID-19 country-specific deaths, vaccination and cases to conduct studies in six countries. The primary goal of the study was to determine counterfactual trends in vaccinations, cases and deaths related to COVID-19 and to examine the impact of mandatory vaccination on these trends. The researchers determined that mandatory vaccination promotes vaccine uptake among vaccine hesitant individuals. Specifically, the authors found that the introduction of COVID-19 vaccination certificates in public spaces significantly reduced vaccine hesitancy.

**King, J., & Motta-Ferraz, O. L. (2021, November 1). *Legal, constitutional, and ethical principles for mandatory vaccination requirements for COVID-19*. Lex-Atlas: Covid-19. <https://lexatlas-c19.org/vaccination-principles/>**

King is a professor of law at London Global University while Motta-Ferraz is a professor of transnational law at Kings College. The authors provide scientific evidence that proves that when the entire population is vaccinated, vaccine preventable diseases such as COVID-19 will be sufficiently mitigated. According to the article, vaccination is the most effective way to prevent the infections. The authors believe that mandatory vaccination is legal and ethical because it protects the welfare of the larger population in terms of health, education and work. However, King and Motta-Ferraz require the regulation of mandatory vaccination through constitutional law to ensure democratic accountability of the government.

**Geoghegan, S., O’Callaghan, K. P., & Offit, P. A. (2020). Vaccine safety: Myths and misinformation. *Frontiers in Microbiology, 11*.**

**<https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2020.00372>**

Geoghegan et al. work at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Division of Infectious Diseases. The authors review 48 articles that address myths and misinformation regarding vaccines. According to Geoghegan et al., people are hesitant to get vaccinated due to the fear that vaccines cause disorders such as autism and developmental delays. The authors present a robust scientific research that disrepute myths and misinformation propagated by antivaccine groups regarding vaccines. The article views these myths and misinformation as the primary cause of vaccine hesitancy and vaccine delays. According to the authors, vaccines undergo robust scientific research, test and approval which make them safe. It is the misinformation and myths that pose safety threats.

## **Part 2: Source Evaluation**

**WHO. (2021). *COVID-19 and mandatory vaccination: Ethical considerations and caveats.***

**World Health Organization. WHO/2019-  
nCoV/Policy\_brief/Mandatory\_vaccination/2021.1**

The World Health Organization's policy brief was published in 2021 making it current. WHO is also a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for global health. WHO has played an important role in COVID-19 containment in terms of vaccine research and approval. The agency's articles are written by expert scientists, COVID-19 working group and ethicists. These experts work within the procedures and standards of the World Health Organization. Reports from the World Health Organization are authoritative, credible, reliable and trustworthy. The agency examines ethical issues and caveats regarding mandatory vaccination and proposed six considerations that support mandatory vaccination for communicable diseases. The article will support my thesis through its argument that vaccines are efficacious and safe and any vaccine eligible individual should get vaccinated except in cases of medical contraindications.

**Savulescu, J. (2020). Good reasons to vaccinate: Mandatory or payment for risk? *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 47(2), 78-85. <https://doi.org/10.1136/medethics-2020-106821>**

The article is up-to-date. Savulescu scrutinizes the threats of COVID-19 on public health. The author is a philosopher and bioethicist at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Oxford. Savulescu is an experienced philosopher having authored over sixty articles and books. This makes the article credible, authoritative and reliable. The article uses 44 philosophical and scientific literature that offer evidence that vaccination is the most effective intervention to COVID-19. Savulescu's article supports my thesis through ethical justification of mandatory vaccination as an appropriate intervention for infectious diseases that pose significant public health threats.

**Mills, M. C., & Rüttenauer, T. (2021). The impact of mandatory COVID-19 certificates on vaccine uptake: Synthetic control modelling of six countries.**

**<https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.10.08.21264718>**

The article is current thus dependable. It provides up-to-date information regarding compulsory vaccination. The authors are sociology professors with research interest in public health, making the article credible and authoritative. Mills and Rüttenauer designed a synthetic control model to examine the impact of mandatory vaccination. The control model compared six countries where COVID-19 vaccination has been made mandatory including Denmark, Israel, Italy, France, Germany and Switzerland. The authors use sources that are peer-reviewed. Peer-reviewed articles provide quantitative data that are credible and reliable. The article findings support my thesis by supporting compulsory vaccination as a solution to the incidence and prevalence of infectious diseases such as Covid-19.

**King, J., & Motta-Ferraz, O. L. (2021, November 1). *Legal, constitutional, and ethical principles for mandatory vaccination requirements for COVID-19*. Lex-Atlas: Covid-19. <https://lexatlas-c19.org/vaccination-principles/>**

The article is current and provides updated information about the legality of mandatory vaccination. King and Motta-Ferraz are professors of law with diverse experience within the ethical and legal framework of mandatory vaccination. The article is a scholarly project that analyzes and reports international legal and ethical responses to coronavirus. This makes the report authoritative, reliable and credible. The journal will support my thesis by ethically and legally supporting mandatory vaccination as important intervention for containing the spread of infectious diseases.

**Geoghegan, S., O’Callaghan, K. P., & Offit, P. A. (2020). Vaccine safety: Myths and misinformation. *Frontiers in Microbiology, 11*.**

**<https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2020.00372>**

Geoghegan et al.’s article is current. The journal is based on the review of several epidemiologic studies and peer-reviewed articles. The authors provide several scientific evidences that repudiate the concerns of the public regarding vaccine safety. Geoghegan et al. are professors with experience and background in infectious diseases and vaccination which makes the article authoritative, reliable and credible. The article will support my thesis by disreputing myths and misinformation regarding vaccine safety thus, promoting mandatory vaccination.

### References

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