

## **UK Medical Freedom Alliance (UKMFA)**

### **Public Inquiry Module 4 - Core Participant Application**

30 June 2023

#### **Why UKMFA is a Relevant Core Participant**

UK Medical Freedom Alliance<sup>1</sup> was founded in October 2020, in response to Government COVID-19 policies undermining medical ethics and medical choice, by a group of concerned doctors, healthcare professionals, scientists, and lawyers. **We are now the UK's most recognised and respected organisation advocating for every individual's right to Informed Consent, Bodily Autonomy and Medical Choice** and have established ourselves as a leading UK voice on medical ethics, in the public sphere and the media.<sup>2</sup>

Over the last 2.5 years, we have **written and published over 50 fully referenced, evidence-based Open Letters**<sup>3</sup> to Government ministers, regulators, decision-makers, medical bodies, institutions, community leaders and individuals, including many relating to COVID-19 vaccine safety and effectiveness: COVID-19 rollout policies; COVID-19 vaccine mandates: and ethical issues relating to COVID-19 vaccines and their use and deployment. Through these, **we have created a dated, evidence-based and referenced paper trail of accountability**, which could be used in evidence for a witness statement in any of these areas.

As well as **lobbying decision-makers**, we have also **published referenced information leaflets, template letters** and other information (medical, scientific and legal) on our website to educate and inform the public<sup>4</sup>. These are intended to support the process of Informed Consent for COVID-19 vaccines and to provide tools to help the public to challenge unethical and unlawful mandates and policies in their workplaces or wider community.

We have also **written and published submissions to Government Public Consultations**<sup>5</sup> and **participated in focussed campaigns** e.g. our "Time to Pause" campaign in February 2022 which addressed serious medical and ethical concerns around the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines to children.<sup>6</sup>

#### **Summary of Eligibility to be Core Participants**

- If our application is successful, we confirm that we consent to be designated as a Core Participant.
- We are applying in respect to the following parts of Module 4:
  - 1. The development, procurement, manufacture and approval of vaccines during the pandemic, including the effectiveness of UK-wide decision-making.
  - Vaccine delivery in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, including roll-out procedures such as: arrangements on the ground and public messaging; Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation recommendations on eligibility /

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/resources/ukmfa-in-the-media>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/resources/open-letters>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/resources/covid-19-vaccine-info>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/resources/ukmfa-public-consultation-submissions>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/campaigns-2/time-to-pause>

prioritisation and decisions taken by policy makers; the ethics of prioritisation decisions and impact on particular groups such as those with comorbidities.

- Vaccine safety issues including post marketing surveillance, such as the Yellow Card monitoring and reporting system and a suggested correlation between Covid-19 vaccines and cardiovascular issues.
- The UKMFA is applying under Rule 5(2)b – “has a significant interest in an important aspect of the matters to which the inquiry relates”.
- We are applying as an independent organisation, not in association with other organisations.
- We do not plan to be legally represented.

### **UKMFA - Focus Areas of Expertise for Public Inquiry**

- **Informed Consent for COVID-19 Vaccination**

The well-established, fundamental principle of Informed Consent in medicine and law has been seriously undermined by:

- Lack of transparency and honesty, from Government and Public Health bodies
- The “one-size-fits-all” approach of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout which has completely failed to recognise individual variations in risk v benefit analysis.
- Aggressive advertising and promotion of the COVID-19 vaccines by the Government which has grossly overstated benefits and denied or downplayed the known and unknown risks to individuals.

Safety of these experimental products, which remain in the clinical trial phase to this date, has not been prioritised, and the public are still largely unaware of the serious safety concerns that we have raised since November 2020. All medical interventions are subject to the legal and ethical requirement that informed consent must be obtained, after a full explanation from a clinician who must disclose all material risks, benefits, and alternatives to treatment, including doing nothing. Informed consent is only valid if obtained without coercion or pressure, including any penalty or restriction resulting from a refusal to consent.

The UKMFA published a **COVID-19 Vaccine Informed Consent Legal Summary**<sup>7</sup> on our website in late 2020, for the public and medical professionals to use to ensure this process was fully adhered to. It is arguable that no one gave legally valid informed consent to the COVID-19 vaccines.

- **Medical Ethics and the GMC/NMC codes of practice and NHS Constitution**

Fundamental principles of medical ethics have been seriously undermined with the Government policies regarding the COVID-19 vaccine rollout, especially **vaccine mandates for Care Workers and NHS workers**. UKMFA worked hard to advocate for and support healthcare workers in understanding and accessing their legal and ethical rights<sup>8</sup>.

**Mandating of medical interventions has breached ethical codes and the GMC/NMC codes of Good Medical Practice** relating to informed consent and bodily autonomy e.g. COVID-19 vaccine mandates for Social Care Workers. NHS staff are required to uphold the core principles of the NHS and medical ethics, including the right to informed consent. It is

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/open-letters/covid-19-vaccine-informed-consent-legal-summary>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/resources/employee-vaccine-mandates>

inconceivable that it is congruent with GMC and NMC Codes of Practice that care staff were denied the right to decline a medical intervention (COVID-19 vaccines) without coercion, penalty or restriction.

**The NHS Constitution has been seriously breached regarding ethical conduct**, in the policies and practices implemented over the last 3 years. The NHS Constitution for England states that *“The NHS belongs to the people. It is there to improve our health and wellbeing, supporting us to keep us mentally and physically well, to get better when we are ill and, when we cannot fully recover, to stay as well as we can to the end of our lives”*

Safeguarding individual rights and needs (including medical exemptions) and considering both physical and mental health requirements are important duties of those providing healthcare.

There is no current Term of Reference to examine how fundamental, individual human rights and legal obligations around Informed Consent and Bodily Autonomy have been ignored and violated during the pandemic by Government policies. It needs to be established beyond doubt that all future pandemic responses acknowledge that **fundamental human rights and medical ethics are invariably upheld and honoured**.

### **Relevant UKMFA Resources for Public inquiry**

All our COVID-19 Vaccine-related Open Letters are published on our website. Of particular note:

- We wrote our **first 14-page, fully evidenced, referenced and argued 14-page Open Letter to the MHRA, JCVI and Matt Hancock regarding the possible COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout on 23rd November 2020<sup>9</sup>** (BEFORE the MHRA issued the Temporary Authorisation of the AZ Vaccine a few days later, which triggered the initial rollout) outlining our concerns that a rushed rollout of any COVID-19 Vaccine may compromise safety and medical ethics, and also infringe on UK and International Law. Most of our concerns raised then have subsequently been realised.
- We believe we were **the first group to openly and publicly link the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in care homes to a spike in deaths** with our Open Letter on **7th February 2021<sup>10</sup>**, to Matt Hancock, Nadim Zahawi, Boris Johnson, the MHRA and the JCVI. We raised concerns about media reports and epidemiological data which indicated there may be a link between COVID-19 vaccination and a rise in deaths and COVID-19 cases reported in care homes and the elderly. We called for an urgent audit and investigation into all deaths that had occurred in these cohorts since the COVID-19 vaccine rollout began. To date none has been published.
- We were also **very early to raise concerns about any future rollout of COVID-19 vaccines to children**, which we detailed in our **Open Letter to Child Health Experts/Officers, Nadhim Zahawi, JCVI, and MHRA on 25th February 2021<sup>11</sup>**. We referenced the current scientific

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/open-letters/ukmfa-open-letter-to-mhra-jcvi-and-matt-hancock-re-safety-and-ethical-concerns-of-proposed-covid-19-vaccine-authorisation-and-rollout>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/open-letters/ukmfa-open-letter-to-government-and-vaccine-regulators-re-possible-covid-19-vaccine-related-deaths-in-the-elderly-and-in-care-homes>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/open-letters/ukmfa-open-letter-to-child-health-experts-and-regulators-re-covid-19-vaccination-of-children>

evidence that clearly showed (even then) that the risk v benefit calculation did NOT support administering experimental COVID-19 vaccines to healthy children. We concluded that it would be irresponsible and unethical, as well as unnecessary, to include any children under 18 years in either the national COVID-19 vaccine rollout or any clinical trials. We stated that the end of the current Phase 3 trials in adults must be awaited, as well as several years of safety data to rule out any adverse effects on autoimmune diseases, fertility, genetics (offspring) or cancers. Our predictions of potential adverse effects, founded in the evidence available last February 2021, have sadly been realised.

- We further wrote fully referenced and evidenced medical, legal and ethical Open Letters in 2021/2022 to:
  - **General Medical Council<sup>12</sup> and Nursing and Midwifery Council<sup>13</sup>** – regarding concerns about the way doctors and nurses/midwives were being asked to practice, violating their own ethical codes and principles of Good Medical Practice: Evidence-based practice; Conflicts of interest; Informed Consent; the development of a culture discouraging health professionals from coming forward to report potential patient safety issues which challenge the official Government /NHS policies
  - **Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Royal College of Midwives, MHRA<sup>14</sup>** – raising safety concerns regarding COVID-19 Vaccine rollout to pregnant women
  - **GPs, Vaccinators, Care Home Managers<sup>15</sup>** – regarding obtaining full and informed consent prior to administration of COVID-19 Vaccines
  - **Universities, Employers, House of Lords, MPs/MSPs/MSs<sup>16</sup>** - regarding safety, legality and ethics of COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates for Students, Employees, NHS/CQC Workers and Vaccine Passports
  - **Chief Medical Officers, Headteachers, Public Health Officers<sup>17</sup>** – regarding safety and ethics of COVID-19 vaccination of children

## **Conclusion**

We sincerely hope that the UK Medical Freedom Alliance will be granted Core Participant status, in order that we are able to contribute our wealth of experience, expertise and resources to this critical discussion of national importance.

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/open-letters/ukmfa-open-letter-to-the-general-medical-council-regarding-the-covid-19-vaccine-rollout>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/open-letters/open-letter-to-nursing-and-midwifery-council-royal-college-of-nurses-and-others-re-coercion-of-nurses-to-accept-a-covid-19-vaccine-and-nursing-culture-silencing-concerns>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/open-letters/ukmfa-open-letter-to-mhra-royal-college-of-obstetricians-gynaecologists-and-royal-college-of-midwives-re-urgent-call-to-re-evaluate-covid-19-vaccine-advice-for-pregnant-women>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/resources/open-letters#Medical-Ethics-and-Informed-Consent-Anchor>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/resources/open-letters#CV-19-Vaccine-Mandates>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.ukmedfreedom.org/resources/open-letters#CV-19-Vaccine-Children-Uni>