



PRESS RELEASE

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Delaware Nurses Association Releases Policy Position on Immunization Practices

Includes Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination

NEWARK, DE – July 28, 2021 – The Delaware Nurses Association (DNA) announced the release of a policy statement related to immunizations for licensed nurses and health care personnel (HCP). The DNA supports policies that mandate “all individuals receive immunizations against vaccine-preventable disease according to the best and most current evidence outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice,” in line with the [American Nurses Association \(ANA\) Position Statement on Immunizations](#).

Due to highly contagious variants, including the Delta variant, and significant numbers of unvaccinated people, COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths are once again rising throughout the U.S. In Delaware, we observe increased weekly new positive cases. The DNA strongly recommends that all nurses, HCP, and the public be vaccinated against COVID-19. The DNA does not support any exemptions other than for medical contraindications to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Christopher E. Otto, MSN, RN, CHFN, PCCN, CCRN, Executive Director, stated, “As cases, hospitalizations, and deaths increase again, we must continue to lead the way, guided by science, ethics, compassion, and professional commitments. We also announce the addition of our association to the [Joint Statement in Support of COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates for All Workers in Health and Long-Term Care](#), released earlier this week.”

Nurses are the most trusted and largest of all licensed health professionals. We possess an ethical and professional obligation to those we serve to first do no harm and provide care and knowledge aligned with the best available evidence. We owe these same duties to each other and ourselves.

ABOUT THE DELAWARE NURSES ASSOCIATION

Found in 1911, the DNA has been leading, bringing together, and advancing the profession of nursing for over 100 years, creating healthier communities for all Delawareans. We are the only professional association in Delaware representing all Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. We continue to advance health through the art and science of nursing supported by diverse members, advocacy, influence, professional development, generation of new knowledge, communication, service, and history.

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