

**July 29, 2021**

**Joint Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination of Health Care Personnel**

The leadership of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and professional societies associated with the specialty offer our support and strong encouragement for COVID-19 vaccination of the nation's health care workers and all eligible Americans.

The health and safety of our members, our colleagues in health care, and the patients we serve is our highest priority. We believe widespread vaccination is the most effective path to reduce illness and death, and to ameliorate the impact of the pandemic.

COVID-19 vaccines have been shown to be safe and effective at significantly reducing the risk of becoming infected, spreading the infection to others, and becoming severely ill or dying from the disease. For health care personnel, COVID-19 vaccination is particularly essential because it significantly reduces the likelihood of unintentionally spreading COVID-19 to our patients, including those who may have weakened immune systems.

We believe anesthesiologists and anesthesiology professionals who work closely with patients in operating rooms and procedural areas, in hospitals and ambulatory settings, and in critical care units should be especially vested in closing the vaccination gap. We stand with all of our medical colleagues to strongly promote these efforts.

This statement is agreed upon and supported by the undersigned societies.

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