

## DHHS Secretary Applauds Healthcare Association's Support For COVID-19 Vaccine Requirements For He

By Administrator

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The North Carolina Healthcare Association (NCHA) announced its position approved by the association's board of trustees supporting COVID-19 vaccination requirements for healthcare workers. NCHA also announced several of its member health systems intend to be first in the state to require COVID-19 vaccination for their employees, including Atrium Health, Cone Health, Duke University Health System, Novant Health, Wake Forest Baptist Health and the following UNC Health hospitals – UNC Medical Center, UNC Rex, UNC Johnston, UNC Chatham, UNC Rockingham and UNC Southeastern. In response, Mandy K. Cohen, M.D., Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services shared the following statement: &quot;I am so grateful to our hospitals and health systems who have been tremendous partners as we've worked together to respond to the pandemic. We owe an incredible debt of gratitude to our healthcare workforce who have selflessly given so much of themselves to protect and care for us and put us on a path to recovery. Thank you to the North Carolina Healthcare Association, and the health systems that are leading the way requiring vaccination for employees, for taking action to protect the health care workforce, their patients, our communities and the state. Vaccinations are our way out of the pandemic. Don't wait to vaccinate.&quot;