

## **AMRPA Policy Statement on Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination of Health Care Personnel**

**Approved by the AMRPA Board of Directors**

**September 2021**

Throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), inpatient rehabilitation hospitals and units have played a pivotal role in the nation's pandemic response efforts. In addition to continuing to provide essential medical rehabilitation services to patients with serious disabling conditions following injury or illness, our members have been able to safely and effectively care for higher acuity patients during the PHE since they are licensed and operate as hospitals. The inherent status of our patients who are physiologically stressed and recovering from a variety of serious conditions makes it essential that inpatient rehabilitation hospitals implement all protocols necessary to protect their patients and staff from exposure to COVID-19.

The American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association (AMRPA) therefore strongly urges vaccination of all healthcare personnel in our member hospitals wherever a valid accommodation does not apply. AMRPA joins other hospital associations in recognizing that the available COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective at reducing both the risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 and spreading the infection to others. We support and encourage our members to adopt vaccination mandates for their employees, while recognizing that local factors will shape when and how these policies may be implemented.

AMRPA has and continues to support our patients, hospital members, and partners in the healthcare system during the PHE, including efforts to achieve a vaccinated healthcare workforce.

*If you have any questions regarding AMRPA's statement or other efforts related to COVID-19 response, please contact Kate Beller (KBeller@amrpa.org)*