



4 August 2020

The Hon Scott Morrison MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister,

Re: Medical and Moral Concerns Regarding the Development of COVID-19 Vaccines

The Australian Catholic Medical Association is a national body created to provide support and a voice for Catholic doctors. We write to express our concern to you about two issues pertaining to the development of COVID-19 vaccines:

1. Opposition in principle to the development of vaccines utilizing aborted fetal cell lines; and
2. The need for the community to have confidence in the process of "fast-tracked" vaccine development.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our concerns regarding these issues, which are supported by a number of key individuals and groups whose names appear at the end of the letter, and to make recommendations to you that we believe will best address our concerns.

There are many persons and families across every faith tradition who would not accept vaccines developed with the use of aborted fetal cell lines. This will be problematic if the vaccine becomes mandatory. If there is no ethically derived COVID-19 vaccine, we expect there will be a portion of the community who will have concerns that may lead to reduced population coverage at a time when coverage is critical.

To be clear, we do not oppose the development of a vaccine, but believe that the issue of vaccine selection and choice is important both medically and morally. It is something which the government of a tolerant and diverse society should support and address now, so as to ensure that good decisions are made, and that there is sensible public discussion.