All

Just wanted to give you a heads up on something that I have been working on this week.

It has come to my attention that there may have been some students who have phoned the Physician COVID Vaccination Booking line to set up a COVID vaccination appointment. This is a number that has been set up for physicians who need to set up a time for their shot, if they are in a group that has been identified as one that is next in line.

Unfortunately, it sounds like there has been some confusion when this phone line was set up: the protocols being used by the team answering these calls could allow for students to receive a booking for a vaccination time. I am continuing to follow up with AHS about this. As you should know from my prior communications, at this time, medical students are not being vaccinated in Phase I (which is still where we are now). This is being considered further and both our UME office and Dean’s office (and our counterparts at U of A) are having ongoing discussions about this with AHS and Alberta Health.

That being said: I would be very disappointed to find out that our students had called this line to book a vaccination. I think that I was quite clear previously about the rationale and process that has been developed by the Ministry of Health to allocate vaccines. Again, as I have described above, medical students are not being vaccinated at present. Please do not try to circumvent this process.

I can understand the emotions that go along with waiting to be vaccinated and that you may disagree with how the province is rolling things out. However, we need to remember that each one of us is part of a bigger picture.

Take care

KB

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