



**COVERSE Ltd**  
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17 February 2023

TO: Janene Hillhouse (via email)  
Executive Director, Workers' Compensation Regulatory Services  
Queensland Government

**RE: 2023 review of the operation of the Queensland workers' compensation scheme**

Dear Ms Hillhouse,

We write to you regarding the current review of the Queensland workers' compensation scheme. The particular issue we address is the operation of the scheme towards those workers who have suffered a serious adverse vaccine reaction as a result of a workplace mandate.

Our organisation is a non-profit organisation founded by a group of Australian professionals who have had medically recognised, life-changing serious adverse reactions to COVID-19 vaccines.

In a survey of our vaccine-injured members, we found that over 60% of those who have attempted to claim workers' compensation — as a result of suffering a serious adverse reaction after taking a vaccine that was mandated by their employer — have experienced significant issues, particularly rejection of their claims. We are also aware of members whose WorkCover claims were approved and subsequently withdrawn on the advice of WorkCover's specialists who did not understand the complexity of vaccine injury. We are also aware of situations where independent specialists refuted the assessment of WorkCover's specialists and WorkCover still elected to close the claim.

Despite thousands of peer-reviewed scientific papers and case studies that address COVID-19 vaccine reactions,<sup>1</sup> only extremely limited medical guidelines have emerged for Australian GPs and specialists to aid with the diagnosis and treatment of serious complications caused by the COVID-19 vaccines.

Individuals can suffer a wide array of symptoms and varying degrees of disability on account of the COVID-19 vaccines — these range from minor annoyances that do little to interrupt daily life, to significant impairment resulting in the inability to function on even a basic level, for weeks, months or years. On average, our members are suffering for more than 7 months before they see even a minor improvement in their symptoms.

The lack of recognition of the volume and breadth of potential injury has meant delayed treatment for many injured Australians, which, in itself is incredibly distressing. However, this distress is

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<sup>1</sup> 1250+ COVID Vaccine Publications and Case Reports, React19, [react19.org/1250-covid-vaccine-reports](https://react19.org/1250-covid-vaccine-reports)



magnified when this lack of recognition also serves as a significant barrier when injured workers submit their WorkCover claims.

The vaccines continue to operate under emergency use authorisation, which means, as a matter of logic and scientific fact, that the list of adverse reactions will continue to grow. In the face of these challenges, we ask that WorkCover Qld review its processes to ensure that those workers who have been impacted are not disadvantaged on account of the novelty of their conditions.

In addition to the unknown and difficult-to-diagnose conditions that many are facing post-vaccination, a significant proportion of these people are being misdiagnosed with mental health disorders. We encourage WorkCover Qld to develop processes for dealing with such situations, understanding that the overwhelming majority of such cases are only suffering apparent mental health disorders as a result of physical injury (usually undiagnosed with the limited diagnostic tools available to Australian doctors), and their workers' compensation support should seek to assist with treating the underlying injuries rather than only consider the mental health issues.

Given the long-term sequelae of vaccine injuries, we are of the belief that specialist review panels for vaccine injury-related claims are warranted (both now and into the future).

Should you wish to further discuss the patient experience or any of the information contained in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us at [contact@coverse.org.au](mailto:contact@coverse.org.au). We have also attached a copy of our published submission to the Federal Government's *Inquiry into Long Covid and Repeated Covid Infections*, which is scientifically referenced and provides an in-depth analysis of the vaccine injury situation in Australia.

Yours sincerely,

Rado Faletič, PhD  
Director, Co-founder  
**COVERSE** Ltd