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## Vaccinations in the Workplace: a higher expectation than one may think

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Interestingly, these figures represent a considerable increase when compared with our own workplace survey in December 2021 (<a href="Employment & Workforce Survey 2021: Vaccinations in the workplace">Employment & Workforce Survey 2021: Vaccinations in the workplace</a>). It would be interesting to understand the respondents' rationale for making vaccination a requirement of employment.

Acas' guidance on the matter remains the same, in stating that it is better to support staff to get the vaccine rather than requiring them to be vaccinated. (Supporting staff to get vaccinated: Getting the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine for work - Acas)

Where employers do require that employees and future employees are vaccinated, they need to take heed that they may be opening themselves up to future complaints down the line. Staff and applicants could argue that they are being discriminated against on religious and/or health grounds, or because they are pregnant and do not want to be vaccinated. Where staff have been dismissed as a result of refusing to be vaccinated, this may lead to claims of unfair dismissal.

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