

RESPONSIBILITIES, ROLES AND RIGHTS OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL IN A PANDEMIC SWINE FLU SCENARIO

Dear Sir,

I read the recent publication by Voo and Capps⁽¹⁾ with great interest. I agree that the roles and duties of healthcare workers are very important issues in the present pandemic influenza scenario. However, it is important to have a more complete focus; not only on the responsibilities and roles of medical personnel, but also on their rights. In any outbreak of emerging infectious disease, medical personnel should take on more responsibilities and roles, but there is unfortunately less concern being placed on the rights of these healthcare workers. At the least, medical personnel should possess the basic human right to protect themselves from getting infected by a disease.

Yours sincerely,

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REFERENCES

1. Voo TC, Capps B. Influenza pandemic and the duties of healthcare professionals. Singapore Med J 2010; 51:275-81.