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**Federal Politics**

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# Ethics commission rejects compulsory vaccinations



▲ The commission advised against mandatory vaccination for certain groups of the population, such as healthcare workers Keystone / Jean-christophe Bott






A general vaccination obligation in Switzerland would interfere “disproportionately with fundamental rights”, according to the National Advisory Commission on Biomedical Ethics (NCE).

February 12, 2021 - 12:59

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Keystone-SDA/ts

The commission also advised against mandatory vaccination for certain groups of the population, such as healthcare workers. “To prescribe such self-protection for specific groups would be paternalistic and unjustifiable,” it said [in a statement](#) on Friday.

In addition, it said that unequal treatment of vaccinated and non-vaccinated people  vaccination certificate could only be justified if vaccination guaranteed   protection against virus transmission and everyone had access to the vaccination.  

The NCE said that issues concerning vaccination certificates needed to be “explicitly regulated”.

## Vaccinations in Switzerland

It did not exclude that, under certain conditions, a vaccination certificate may be required for certain activities. However, “it is imperative to ensure that the fundamental rights of all people are safeguarded, that potential inequalities of treatment are minimised and that the basic needs of each person are met”.

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## Scientific arguments

The commission also demanded that official communication encouraging the population to be vaccinated be adapted to different target groups. It must be based on scientific arguments so that citizens can make a decision that takes account of existing uncertainties, it said.

Finally, the NEC called for greater Swiss involvement in promoting access to vaccines for poor countries. In particular, it should become more involved in the COVAX initiative, a WHO-led scheme aimed at ensuring equitable access to vaccines against Covid.

On Thursday, 1,356 more cases of Covid-19 and 22 deaths were recorded in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. In total, some 9,000 people have died in connection with Covid 19.

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