

Inquiry into the Government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic

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YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

I am a doctor who has worked at numerous screening clinic sites across Melbourne.

Recruitment for this was done via whatsapp - we were told to text a particular number to flag our interest with the person appointed to staff the clinics - [REDACTED], a former vice president of the Victorian Labor Party. Doctors were then added to a whatsapp thread where shifts were sent out via SMS and accepted by doctors. There was no orientation or screening process, we were simply advised to turn up to a carpark. Each site ran differently and we were effectively being told what to do when we turned up on the day. There was no clarity regarding payment rates, this was discussed in the whatsapp thread with people seeking clarification after having worked several shifts.

The clinics were managed by DNata staff with no experience in management or healthcare. One such manager spent a lot of time telling everybody that she believed covid was a government sanctioned plot to enact a mass immunisation campaign. Each clinic received catered lunch every day, in addition to two rounds of coffee everyday. The clinics were incredibly inefficient and overstaffed.

This week (27/7/2020) I had a patient told me that he has been employed to work at the quarantine hotels. He was employed just prior to the hotels being closed and so he is yet to work a single shift. Despite this he is being paid at full salary.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

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