

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0305

October 5, 2021

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

Elizabeth A. Fowler
Acting Director
Indian Health Service
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Secretary Becerra and Acting Director Fowler:

Recent reporting from Project Veritas has brought to light shocking allegations that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) may not be accurately recording adverse patient reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine. Interviews and footage of federal healthcare providers working at the Indian Health Service's (IHS) Phoenix Indian Medical Center raise concerns that federal healthcare workers are failing to report adverse patient reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine in HHS's Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). The reporting from Project Veritas is incredibly disturbing and must be investigated.

On September 20, 2021, Project Veritas released footage recorded by Jodi O'Malley, who serves as a Registered Nurse at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center. The footage captures Nurse O'Malley discussing a specific patient's vaccine reaction with the medical center's emergency room physician, Dr. Maria Gonzales.¹ During the conversation, Nurse O'Malley notes that it is the responsibility of the medical center to report a patient's adverse reaction and Dr. Gonzales is shown responding "But now, they [the government] are not going to blame the vaccine... They are not reporting... Because they want to shove it under the mat."² In a later interview with Project Veritas founder James O'Keefe, Nurse O'Malley stated that there were dozens of instances where the medical center did not report a patient's adverse reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine.³

The footage released by Project Veritas shows additional instances where Nurse O'Malley raises VAERS reporting concerns at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center and her concerns are echoed by other nurses. The published footage captured by Nurse O'Malley revealed the following conversation between her and IHS Registered Nurse Deanna Paris:

Paris: *"It's a shame they [the government] are not treating people [with COVID] like they're supposed to, like they should. I think they want people to die."*

¹ *Federal Govt Whistleblower Goes Public with Secret Recordings: 'Government Doesn't Want to Show the [COVID] Vaccine is Full of Sh*t; 'Shove' Adverse Effect Reporting 'Under the Mat'*, PROJECT VERITAS, Sept. 20, 2021, <https://www.projectveritas.com/news/federal-govt-whistleblower-goes-public-with-secret-recordings-government/>.

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

O'Malley: *"How many have you seen that have gotten vaccinated here?"*

Paris: *"That got sick from the side effects? A lot."*

O'Malley: *"A lot!"*

Paris: *"Have you seen it too?"*

O'Malley: *"Yeah, and I'm like, who's writing the VAERS reports?"*

Paris: *"Nobody because it takes over a half hour to write the damn thing."⁴*

The allegations raised by Nurse O'Malley and uncovered in the Project Veritas footage are incredibly troubling and require further investigation. In order to assist Congress in performing its oversight function, please provide answers to the following questions:

1. What policies has HHS and IHS put in place to ensure that all adverse patient reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine are properly submitted to the VAERS database?
2. Has HHS received any complaints from healthcare workers that adverse patient reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine are not being properly reported to the VAERS database?
3. Is HHS aware of any medical providers or medical centers failing to accurately report adverse patient reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine to the VAERS database?
4. Is IHS aware of any prior VAERS reporting failures at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center?
5. What immediate steps does HHS plan to take to address the troubling allegations raised by Nurse O'Malley and the Project Veritas reporting?

Sincerely,



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



David Schweikert
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

⁴ *Id.*