OPEN LETTER TO BORIS JOHNSON

Dear Prime Minister

We are healthcare professionals, senior leaders, and organisations who support #VaccinateTheWorld, a UK-based campaign that urges our Government to play a bigger role in achieving the World Health Organisation (WHO) 70% global vaccination target by July 2022.

This February, the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A), a partnership of leading global agencies, including WHO and COVAX, showed how this is possible. They have launched a costed business plan, based on fair shares financing from richer nations (by their GDP). The UK has been asked to donate just £720 million.

To put this figure in context, our domestic COVID response has accounted for £360 billion, representing 18% of our GDP. The £720 million being requested by the international community represents just 0.036% of our GDP.

There are three advantages to the UK funding ACT-A.

- 1. Protecting the UK: The Omicron variant proved that low vaccination rates in other countries allows the virus to mutate giving rise to new strains. People here will never be safe until everyone is safe.
- 2. Economic: Allowing the global pandemic to carry on could cost the world economy \$5.3 trillion. Domestically it will stall post pandemic recovery plans.
- 3. Moral: Failing to meet the WHO 70% global vaccination target could result in another 5 million deaths worldwide.

This view is echoed by the UK citizens; 72% believe that ending the Covid-19 pandemic globally in 2022 should be the top priority for the UK Government. We strongly urge our government to donate £720 million, which should be in addition to the Overseas Aid Budget. This small investment will save millions of lives, boost the economy, and future-proof our nation from further strains.

Let's honour our moral obligations and help end the global pandemic. Let's help #VaccinateTheWorld.

Yours sincerely,

healthcare organisations, NHS professionals and senior leaders including the following:





















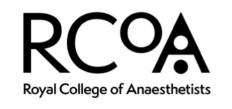












Dr Bharat Pankhania Senior Clinical Lecturer University of Exeter

Mr Sharif Al-Ghazal President British Islamic

Medical Association

Dr Jackie Applebee Chairperson Doctors in Unite

Prof Trisha Greenhalgh OBE Professor of Primary Care Health Sciences University of Oxford

Prof Maggie Rae President Faculty of Public Health

Prof Martin Marshall CBE

Dr Mark Porter MBE Medical Correspondent The Times

Dr Ramesh Mehta OBE President

British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin

Dr Jennifer Burns President

British Geriatrics Society

Dr Andrew Goddard President Royal College of Physicians

Prof Andrew Elder President Royal College of Physicians

of Edinburgh

Chairperson Royal College of General Practitioners **Dr Adrian James** President Royal College of **Psychiatrists**

Mr Edward Morris President

Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

Prof Liz Lightstone Professor of Renal Medicine Imperial College London

Chairperson **British Medical Association**

Dr Farah Jameel

Dr Jeanette Dickson President The Royal College of Radiologists

Steve Ford Chief Executive Royal College of Occupational Therapists **Prof Michael Griffin OBE** President Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh

Dr Fiona Donald President The Royal College of

Anaestheitsts

Prof Claire Anderson President Royal Pharmaceutical Society

Prof Neil Mortensen President Royal College of Surgeons of England

Mr Matthew Garrett Dean, Faculty of Dental Surgery Royal College of

Surgeons of England

Prof Partha Kar OBE Consultant in Diabetes, **Portsmouth** NHS England