



## Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) 75th meeting, 18 June 2020

Agenda item	Purpose	Discussion and outcomes
<b>1. Welcome and open</b> 1.1. Declarations of interest 1.2. Actions arising from previous meetings 1.3. Out-of-session items including correspondence	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noted.</li> </ul>
<b>2. ATAGI strategic planning</b>	Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ATAGI discussed options for updating its strategic intent document, including clarifying ATAGI's role as a technical advisory group within the broader landscape of immunisation in Australia. Further work will be done to update this document.</li> </ul>
<b>3. ATAGI Annual Immunisation Statement</b>	Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ATAGI discussed a revised outline for the annual immunisation statement and considered potential topics for the first statement to be published in early 2021.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Update on the implementation of revised arrangements for the evaluation of vaccines on the National Immunisation Program</b>	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ATAGI discussed the revised arrangements that will come into effect on 1 July 2020. These include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the activation of a panel of vaccine evaluation groups</li> <li>the use of new documents for sponsors seeking and receiving ATAGI advice, including guidelines, procedures and templates</li> <li>expedited timeframes for receipt of ATAGI advice by sponsors</li> <li>new fees under the government's cost-recovery framework.</li> </ul> </li> <li>There will be 3 cycles of requests for ATAGI advice per calendar year. Timeframes and dates will be published on health.gov.au.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Update from the Influenza Working Party</b>	Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ATAGI discussed and endorsed its advice to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) for upcoming submissions for influenza vaccines.</li> </ul>
<b>6. Post-Industry Day reports and discussions</b>	Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ATAGI discussed its responses to sponsors' questions from Industry Day. ATAGI will write to each company to provide feedback and request any further data or information.</li> </ul>

Endorse: a decision is to be made at this meeting  
 Discuss: a decision is to be made at a future meeting or out of session  
 Information: no decision points at this stage



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<p><b>7. Coronavirus (COVID-19)</b></p>	<p>Information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATAGI noted an update on COVID-19 epidemiology. Australia has recorded more than 7000 cases and around 100 deaths due to COVID-19. Since the peak of cases at the end of March 2020, there has been a sustained and relatively low number of cases reported each day. The latest information is available on <a href="http://health.gov.au">health.gov.au</a>.</li> <li>• ATAGI noted a presentation on the development of COVID-19 vaccine candidates. As of 9 June 2020, there were more than 136 candidate vaccines, with 11 in clinical trials. ATAGI discussed key considerations for implementing a COVID-19 vaccine at a population level, including regulatory approvals, manufacturing capacity, distribution, safety evaluation, public risk perception and equity of access.</li> <li>• ATAGI provided preliminary input to a multidepartmental taskforce on COVID-19 and noted that ongoing work is planned.</li> <li>• ATAGI received an update from the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) on potential registration pathways for COVID-19 vaccines.</li> </ul>
<p><b>8. Department Updates</b> 8.1. Therapeutic Goods Administration / Advisory Committee on Vaccines update 8.2. Office of Health Protection update</p>	<p>Information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATAGI received an update from the TGA on the regulatory status of new vaccines.</li> <li>• ATAGI discussed the substantial increase in demand for influenza vaccines in 2020, and the substantial increase in the number of doses of influenza vaccine reported to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR), compared with previous years. ATAGI reiterated the importance of all immunisation providers recording vaccinations on the AIR.</li> <li>• ATAGI reviewed national immunisation coverage rates, which remain high. ATAGI was pleased to note that, based on current data, the impact of COVID-19 on National Immunisation Program (NIP) vaccine coverage has been small. The Department continues to monitor this closely.</li> <li>• ATAGI noted the upcoming changes to the NIP, which come into effect on 1 July 2020. Communication resources have been distributed to immunisation providers and are also available on <a href="http://health.gov.au">health.gov.au</a>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>9. National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance report</b></p>	<p>Information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATAGI received an update from the NCIRS, including recent publications relating to ‘No Jab, No Pay’, and pharmacist reporting of vaccinations to the AIR.</li> </ul>



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<b>10. Australian Immunisation Handbook</b>	Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ATAGI noted the updates to the Handbook to reflect the NIP changes from 1 July 2020, including disease chapters, population chapters, the catch-up chapter, and resources such as infographics. These are available on the Australian Immunisation Handbook website.</li><li>• ATAGI was pleased to note the launch of the Handbook mobile app, which has been downloaded by more than 10,000 people. The app allows access to all Handbook content on mobile devices, even without internet access.</li><li>• ATAGI noted the upcoming release of the National Immunisation Catch-up Calculator on 1 July 2020, available on the Handbook website.</li><li>• ATAGI discussed ongoing updates to Handbook chapters, and progress towards implementing GRADE for Handbook recommendations.</li></ul>
<b>Meeting close</b>		

#### Notes and resources

- ATAGI's membership, terms of reference and declaration of interest information are available on the Department of Health website.
- The digital Australian Immunisation Handbook is available on the Department's website.
- A summary report of decisions of key immunisation technical advisory groups of interest will be available on the NCIRS website.
- Information on NITAGs worldwide is available on the NITAG Resource Centre website.
- Next ATAGI meeting: 20–21 August 2020, by videoconference. The meeting agenda will be published on the Department of Health website shortly before the meeting.