

# Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI)

## Strategic Intent

### Vision

To protect the Australian population from vaccine-preventable diseases.

### Purpose

To provide evidence-based advice on immunisation policies, programs and future research priorities to the Minister of Health and other key policy makers. This includes identifying and prioritizing gaps in the immunisation landscape to improve impact, confidence and equity.

### Strategic priorities

Impact	Confidence	Equity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise impact through use of the most effective vaccines and schedules that are relevant to epidemiology in Australia.</li> <li>Maximise vaccine coverage through population-based strategies.</li> <li>Advise on how and where improvements to coverage could reduce morbidity and mortality from vaccine preventable diseases.</li> <li>Promote and facilitate when required the need for evaluations to assess impact and outcomes of immunisation programs.</li> <li>Use data to identify evidence gaps and establish future research priorities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop trust and confidence through leadership and evidence-based, independent advice.</li> <li>Identify potential safety concerns and promote strategies to address these risks.</li> <li>Collaborate with key stakeholders, promoting research and advising on programs to improve confidence.</li> <li>Build and disseminate information on the administration and safety of vaccines to enhance the quality use of vaccines.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve equity in outcomes by improving access to vaccination for persons of all ages.</li> <li>Identify vulnerable populations and difficult to reach groups and advise on strategies to target those at greatest risk.</li> <li>Contribute to leadership at the regional and global level.</li> </ul>
Communication and engagement		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote community confidence in the National Immunisation Program through effective communication mechanisms, including the Australian Immunisation Handbook and supporting ATAGI clinical statements.</li> <li>Compile and disseminate evidence on priority groups for immunisation, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.</li> <li>Collaborate with other Commonwealth Authorities, committees and their sub-committees involved in immunisation.*</li> <li>Engage with industry, scientific bodies and community to support the stated Vision and Purpose.</li> </ul>		
Implementation and access		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify implementation gaps and opportunities.</li> <li>Advice to the Minister for Health and Department of Health.</li> <li>Advice to PBAC on new and emerging vaccines in relation to their effectiveness and use in Australian populations.</li> <li>Align with the National Immunisation Strategy for Australia 2019-2024.</li> </ul>		
International collaboration		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with NITAGs globally and regionally to share information and develop advice on vaccine administration.</li> <li>Continue to be an active participant in the WHO WPRO Expanded Programme on Immunization, and other regional and globally relevant immunisation initiatives.</li> </ul>		

\* including the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC), Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) and the Advisory Committee on Vaccines (ACV)

### Operating principles

- A focus on continuous improvement in ATAGI's work and methods of operating, to ensure quality outputs.
- Transparency of ATAGI's work program, its outputs and its members (including a strict policy on declarations of interest).

### Measurement and evaluation

ATAGI will monitor vaccine coverage and the impact that it has on the burden of vaccine-preventable diseases.