



## Forum on COVID-19 vaccines, jointly hosted by the Department of Health, ATAGI<sup>1</sup> and NCHRAC<sup>2</sup>

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14 January 2021, 4:00pm–6:00pm

The Department of Health, the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation and the National COVID-19 Health and Research Advisory Committee hosted a forum with eminent leaders, academics and practitioners in the field to discuss the Australian COVID-19 roll-out.

Attendees were provided an overview of Australia's COVID-19 Vaccine Roll-out Strategy, an overview of Australia's vaccine purchase agreements and the expertise sought from the COVID-19 Vaccines and Treatments for Australia – Science and Industry Technical Advisory Group (SITAG) to inform these investment decisions.

Associate Professor Chris Blyth, Co-Chair of the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) provided an overview of the COVID-19 working groups that were established to provide advice to Government on utilisation, prioritisation and equity of access to doses, distribution and implementation of the program and safety, evaluation, monitoring and confidence.

Experts from the National COVID-19 Health and Research Advisory Committee discussed the important role of accurate and credible information in maintaining public confidence, and the benefit of the forum in facilitating communication between those in the scientific community.

The Australian Government will engage with this forum regularly to provide important updates about Australia's COVID-19 vaccine roll-out and address questions that arise within the scientific, academic and health communities, and for the Australian public.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.health.gov.au/committees-and-groups/australian-technical-advisory-group-on-immunisation-atagi>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/leadership-and-governance/committees/national-covid-19-health-and-research-advisory-committee>