

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS - FOI 2522

Doc No.	Date	Pages	Description	Decision on access ¹	Exemption
1	26.03.2021	4	Meeting # 26	RE	s47C & s47E(d) - pages 1 to 4 (part) s47F - page 1 (part)
2	14.04.2021	3	Meeting # 27	RE	s47C & s47E(d) - pages 1 to 3 (part) s47F - page 1 (part)
3	09.06.2021	2	Meeting # 35	RE	s47C & s47E(d) - pages 1 & 2 (part) s47F - page 1 (part)
4	13.06.2021	2	Meeting # 36	RE	s47C & s47E(d) - pages 1 & 2 (part) s47F - page 1 (part)
5	30.06.2021	4	Meeting # 37	RE	s47C & s47E(d) - pages 1 to 4 (part) s47F - page 1 (part)

¹ RE = Release with exempt information removed.

**Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) COVID Working Group
Executive Team Meeting #26 by Videoconference
26 March 2021, 1.30-2.30pm**

Outcomes

In attendance:

Executive Members

Chris Blyth (Co-Chair)
Allen Cheng (Co-Chair)
Kristine Macartney
Robyn Gibbs
Katie Flanagan
Nigel Crawford
Lisa Schofield
Clare Firth

NCIRS support staff

s47F

Department of Health representatives

s47F

Darius Everett

Secretariat

s47F

1. Meeting Opened

Members:

- NOTED attendees and apologies (Hope Peisley)
- DECLARED no conflicts of interest

2. Outcomes from previous meeting

Members:

- ENDORSED outcomes from the previous meeting
- NOTED actions arising:

s47C, s47E(d)

Action	Responsible officer/s	Progress
Contact Dr Catherine Kelaher s47C, s47E(d) s47C, s47E(d)	Chris Blyth	Completed
Prepare ongoing roster of ATAGI reps for daily meetings	Secretariat	Completed

3. Venous thromboembolism

Members NOTED:

s47C, s47E(d)

- Updated ATAGI statement published on 25 March 2021
<https://health.gov.au/news/atagi-statement-for-health-care-providers-on-suitability-of-covid-19-vaccination-in-people-with-history-of-clotting-conditions>
 - Further work needed to:
 - describe in plain English the two conditions in question
 - Consider consent issues
 - Notification of vaccine providers about the ATAGI statement
- s47C, s47E(d)
- EMA to meet on 29 March with full outcome of considerations expected 6-7 April 2021
(<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news/covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca-update-ongoing-evaluation-blood-clot-cases>)
 - TGA expecting to update the Product Information (section 4.8, post market surveillance) followed by TGA web statement, subject to further evidence
 - TGA is continuing to undertake surveillance
 - British Society for Haematology expected to publish a position shortly

Members AGREED:

- Development of clinical advice on venous thromboembolism is within ATAGI's remit
- ATAGI clinical documents will need to be updated, subject to further evidence, with timeline likely to be next week
- No change to the COVID-19 program at this time
- In the interim, clinical advice is available at https://b-s-h.org.uk/media/19475/guidance-on-management-of-thrombosis-with-thrombocytopenia-occurring-after-coronavirus-vaccine-20210324_003-002.pdf

s47C, s47E(d)

Action	Responsible officer/s	Progress
Circulate UK clinical advice link to Expert Advisory Group members and to jurisdictional representatives (item 2)	Secretariat	Completed
	Secretariat	Completed

4. Preferential recommendations

Deferred to item 7

5. Documents awaiting publication

Members NOTED advice from the Taskforce on the shared decision making guides which are close to being published:

- Pregnant and lactating women
- Frail and older people
- Immunocompromised
- Provider guide for immunocompromise

- Palliative care (undergoing readability and design)

6. Update to documents

Members NOTED:

- Advice on side effects – what to expect after vaccination, is finalised and ready to be published
- AusVaxSafety report changing from next week to include survey data on absenteeism

7. Taskforce advice requests

Sedation

Members NOTED:

s47C, s47E(d)

Action	Responsible officer/s	Progress
Finalise ATAGI advice on sedation	NCIRS/Secretariat	In progress

s47C, s47E(d)

Inability to complete a full course of the same vaccine

Members NOTED:

- NCIRS has drafted advice for consideration by Subgroup 1 in relation to:
 - People who cannot complete a full course of one vaccine (eg anaphylaxis or returned from overseas)

s47C, s47E(d)

Members DISCUSSED access issues including:

- Reluctance of some jurisdictions to absorb new cohorts at Pfizer hubs, noting this is a small group and many patients are accepted by hospital specialists

16 – 18 year olds

Members NOTED:

- People under 18 years are in phase 3, unless they meet criteria in phase 1 or 2 (eg medical condition) where they can access a Pfizer hub

s47C, s47E(d)

8. Documents under development

Members NOTED:

s47C, s47E(d)

9. Other issues

Members NOTED a meeting to be held on 29 March 2021 with CDNA representatives in relation to outbreaks and prioritisation.

Members AGREED to hold a shared information session (2 hours) with CDNA in April 2021.

Agenda to cover:

- Stocktake, two months into the COVID-19 vaccination program
- Information needs
- Risks going forward
- Brainstorm

Action	Responsible office /s	Progress
Organise shared information session with ATAGI and CDNA in April 2021	Secretariat	Completed

10. Taskforce issues to raise

Members NOTED:

- regular communication/updates from secretariat to all members on ATAGI activities has commenced
- Secretariat and NCIRS to meet with NHMRC to discuss variants of concern and reduce duplication of effort

Meeting Closed: approx. 2.30pm

**Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) COVID Working Group
Executive Team Meeting #27 by Videoconference
14 April 2021, 12:00-1:00pm
Outcomes**

In attendance:

Executive Members

Allen Cheng (Co-Chair)
Kristine Macartney
Robyn Gibbs
Katie Flanagan
Nigel Crawford

NCIRS support staff

s47F

Department of Health representatives

s47F

Darius Everett

s47F

Secretariat

s47F

1. Meeting Opened

Members:

- NOTED attendees and apologies (Hope Peisley, Lisa Schofield)
- DECLARED no new conflicts of interest.

2. Outcomes from previous meeting

Members:

- NOTED outcomes from the ATAGI meetings held on AstraZeneca and blood clotting (known as Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia syndrome – TTS) are now up on the ATAGI Sharepoint (not the COVID-19 Working Group Sharepoint).

s47C, s47E(d)

Action	Responsible officer/s	Progress
SG1 to consider prioritisation request from Olympics athletes and officials out-of-session	Secretariat	Complete
SG1 to consider broader question of prioritisation of people with travel exemptions at next SG1 meeting	Secretariat / SG1	In progress

4. Documents awaiting publication

Updates required on AstraZeneca and TTS

Members:

- NOTED the following documents are being updated following recommendation on use of AstraZeneca only for people 50 and above:
 - Provider guide for AstraZeneca and TTS – under review by ATAGI Executive and to be endorsed out-of-session
 - Clinical Guidance – under review by NCIRS
 - Shared decision making guides – under review by NCIRS
 - Risk-benefit information sheet – under review by ATAGI executive and to be endorsed out-of-session
- DISCUSSED rationalising ATAGI-generated documents

Action	Responsible officer/s	Progress
Review and endorse the provider information sheet on AstraZeneca and TTS	ATAGI Executive	Complete
Review and endorse the risk-benefit information sheet on AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccination	ATAGI Executive	Complete
Taskforce and NCIRS to meet to discuss rationalisation and next steps for updates to ATAGI documents	Secretariat and NCIRS	Complete

5. ATAGI communications strategy

AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine recommendation – impacts on communications strategy

Members NOTED:

- Additional research and tracking structures have been included in the communications strategy following the shift in the program due to AstraZeneca preferential age recommendation
- Focus is on providing assurances around safety to help address hesitancy
- Research is so far indicating there hasn't been a dramatic drop in vaccine uptake but there may be a lag.

Action	Responsible officer/s	Progress
Check if Roy Morgan research can be disseminated to ATAGI	COVID Vaccine Communications	In progress

Action	Responsible officer/s	Progress
Provider further information on media strategy for ATAGI members – addressing concerns of speed and process for technical versus ATAGI commentary	COVID Vaccine Communications	In progress

6. Next Steps – Vaccine rollout planning

Members:

- NOTED there is very little information regarding the recalibration of the program around the AstraZeneca age recommendation as of yet
- DISCUSSED areas that may be impacted include:
 - Prioritisation – SG1
 - Mixed schedules – SG1
 - Implementation - SG2
 - Safety surveillance – SG3
 - Communications – SG3 – including reactivation of communications sub-group of SG3.

Action	Responsible officer/s	Progress
Send out mixed-dose advice to SG1 by Friday for endorsement at SG1 on Tuesday	Secretariat	Complete
Set up meeting of SG3 communications sub-group	Secretariat	Complete

7. Documents under development

Members NOTED:

- Multi dose vials advice for providers have been reviewed internally by the medical and science advisory unit and some changes have been made
- Next steps include endorsement by SG2 out-of-session and then sent to executive for review.

Action	Responsible officer/s	Progress
Send Multi-dose vials provider information sheet to SG2 for review and endorsement out-of-session	Secretariat	In progress

8. Other issues

Members NOTED:

- Shared information session with CDNA scheduled for next Tuesday 20 April
- Agenda items currently data and reporting on the vaccine rollout
- ATAGI executive members can request agenda items
 - Potential to include discussion on alternative models of quarantine for vaccinated arrivals.

Action	Responsible officer/s	Progress
Send out draft CND/Information sharing session agenda with a request for agenda items	Secretariat	In progress

9. Next meeting

Members NOTED the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 21 April at 3PM

Meeting Closed: approx. 1:10pm

Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) COVID Working Group
Executive Team Meeting #35
9 June 2021, 2-3PM
Outcomes

In attendance:

Executive Members

Allen Cheng (Co-Chair)
Chris Blyth (Co-Chair)
Katie Flanagan
Robyn Gibbs
Nigel Crawford
Kristine Macartney

NCIRS support staff

Cyra Patel
Cat Tran
Clayton Chiu
s47F

Helen Quinn
Sanjay Jayasinghe

Department of Health representatives

Hope Peisley
s47F

Darius Everett

Secretariat

s47F

1. Meeting Opened

Members NOTED:

- Attendees and apologies
- Acknowledgement of country
- No new conflicts of interest

2. Outcomes from previous meeting

Members NOTED:

s47C, s47E(d)

3. Issues for discussion

Members NOTED:

- No feedback has been received that would require changes on the ATAGI-Thrombosis and Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand (THANZ) Statement.
- THANZ and Australasian College of Emergency Medicine (ACEM) would focus on clinical management of TTS recommendations and advice.

4. Documents under development

Members NOTED:

- SG3 is developing a resource for general practice clinical management of a clinical case with linkages from ACEM and General Practice peak bodies.

- Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (RANZCOG) and ATAGI joint statement on pregnancy and COVID-19 vaccines has been published

s47C, s47E(d)

Action	Responsible Officer(s)	Progress
Review and endorse the updates to clinical guidance and shared decision making guide on pregnancy in line with joint RANZCOG-ATAGI statement	ATAGI COVID-19 WG Exec	Complete

5. Future directions

Members:

s47C, s47E(d)

Action	Responsible Officer(s)	Progress
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s47C, s47E(d)

6. Other issues

- NOTED SG1 is working on further advice on mixed schedules and will work with the Department once finalised to consider policy implications and best way to communicate complex advice
- NOTED ongoing work with department on the AIR to consider what constitutes full vaccinated status

Action	Responsible officer (s)	Progress
SG1 to finalise mixed schedule advice and provide to COVID-19 WG Executive for endorsement	Katie Flanagan	In progress
Mixed schedules V2 advice to be considered for policy and communication implications	Secretariat / Policy Branch	In progress

7. Next meeting

Members NOTED the next ATAGI Executive meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 16 June 2021.

Meeting Closed: approx. 3:00PM

Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) COVID Working Group
Executive Team Meeting #36
16 June 2021, 2-3PM
Outcomes

In attendance:

Executive Members

Chris Blyth (Co-Chair)
Katie Flanagan
Robyn Gibbs
Nigel Crawford
Kristine Macartney

NCIRS support staff

s47F

Department of Health representatives

Lisa Schofield (partial meeting)
Hope Peisley
Darius Everett

Secretariat

s47F

1. Meeting Opened

Members NOTED:

- Attendees and apologies (Allen Cheng)
- Acknowledgement of country
- No new conflicts of interest

s47C, s47E(d)

3. Issues for discussion

Members NOTED:

s47C, s47E(d)

4. Documents under development

Members NOTED:

- Updates to documents related to COVID-19 vaccination and pregnancy (clinical guidance and shared decision making guide) have been updated in line with joint Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (RANZCOG) and ATAGI statement and published

s47C, s47E(d)

- Subgroup 3 is developing guidance for s47C, s47E(d) with input from GP and emergency medicine experts, expected to be ready for endorsement next meeting.

5. Subgroup issues to raise

Members:

s47C, s47E(d)

6. Other issues

- NOTED Immunisation branch has developed a paper on criteria in the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) for vaccination certificates

s47C, s47E(d)

Action item	Responsible Officer (s)	Progress
Review paper on AIR changes and provide feedback to immunisation branch by end of week	ATAGI Executive	In progress

7. Next meeting

Members NOTED the next ATAGI Executive meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 23 June 2021.

Meeting Closed: approx. 3:00PM

**Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) COVID Working Group
Executive Team Meeting #37 by Videoconference
23 June 2021, 1.00-2.00PM EST
Outcomes**

In attendance:

Executive Members

Chris Blyth
Katie Flanagan
Robyn Gibbs
Nigel Crawford
Kristine Macartney
Lisa Schofield
Susan Trainor

NCIRS Support staff

s47F

Department of Health representatives

s47F

Darius Everett

Secretariat

s47F

1. Meeting opened

Members NOTED:

- Attendees and apologies (Hope Peisley, Allen Cheng)
- Acknowledgement of country
- No new conflicts of interest

NOTED Lt General Frewin joined the ATAGI TTS discussion at the conclusion of the meeting to introduce himself, his role and thank the committee for their work to date.

2. Outcomes and actions from last meeting

Members:

- NOTED outcomes from the previous ATAGI Executive meeting are available on Sharepoint

s47C, s47E(d)

Feedback on ATAGI statement on Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS)

Members NOTED:

- feedback from peak organisations on the difficulties presented by the statement

s47C, s47E(d)

emerging considerations regarding Pfizer vaccine and myocarditis was raised at the Advisory Committee on Vaccines (ACV):

- agreed would be good to start reviewing evidence, noting further information coming internationally and condition appears mild but requiring some hospitalisation
- Federal Drug Administration (United States) urging caution as majority of cases were transient and self-limiting

Action item	Responsible Officer (s)	Progress
Taskforce members to attend ATAGI Executive next week to provide an update on data.	Secretariat	In progress
Secretariat to provide general reminder regarding confidentiality requirements	Secretariat	In progress

3. Documents under development

Updates following ATAGI statement on TTS

Members NOTED all documents were updated and published last Friday 18 June 2021, with only two issues remaining to confirm: time to onset and treatment of 'precautions'.

Time to onset

Members:

s47C, s47E(d)

- AGREED to move to 4-42 days in ATAGI communications

Treatment of 'precautions'

Members NOTED:

- Different indemnity implications of the terms 'precaution' (can give with advice) vs. 'contraindication' (do not give)
- In ATAGI documents, previous history of HIT, CVST are treated as 'precautions', as currently no evidence to support use of 'contraindication' (i.e. if patients have not had a serious issue post dose 1, they can have dose 2);

- In NSW the term 'precaution' is providing access to Pfizer if required and the flow chart under development by SG1 would assist
- This language remains appropriate (no change required to ATAGI documents) however, the *Clinical Considerations* page would require updating

Action item	Responsible Officer (s)	Progress
Secretariat to seek update to <i>Clinical Considerations</i> webpage	Secretariat	In progress

GP management of TTS (SG3)

Members:

- NOTED SG3 has consulted with GPs on ATAGI COVID-19 WG and other specialists on this document, which is written from Primary Care perspective, and that RACGP is keen to formally distribute the document

s47C, s47E(d)

Action item	Responsible Officer (s)	Progress
Members to review comments on GP management of TTS paper and endorse OOS prior to publication and dissemination	ATAGI Executive	Complete

Proposed changes to AIR COVID-19 vaccination status (Nigel Crawford/Darius Everett)

Members

s47C, s47E(d)

4. Issues for discussion

Members DISCUSSED:

s47C, s47E(d)

Action item	Responsible Officer (s)	Progress
Prepare short brief outlining evidence base for inclusion of pregnant women in 1b category for Taskforce consideration	NCIRS	In progress

5. Sub-group issues to raise

Members NOTED:

s47C, s47E(d)

Action item	Responsible Officer (s)	Progress
s47C, s47E(d)		

6. Other issues

Nil

7. Next meeting

Members NOTED the next ATAGI Executive meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 30 June 2021.

Meeting Closed: approx. 3:05PM