

## e-Newsletter May 2017



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### Updated Factsheets

The following fact sheets have been updated and are now available on our [factsheets webpage](#)

[Influenza vaccines for Australians](#) [PDF – 573kB]

[Vaccines for Australian adults](#) [PDF – 309kB]

[Meningococcal vaccines for Australians](#) [PDF – 741kB]

### NCIRS Seminar Series 2017

In February 2017 we launched a new seminar series focussed on the hottest topics in immunisation research. The following seminars have been presented to date:

**#1. Pneumococcal vaccines for elderly adults – Wednesday 22 February** [Video resources now available – click here](#)

**#2. All creatures great and small: a one health approach to the problem of Q fever – Wednesday 22 March**

**#3. Maternal immunisation against pertussis: latest evidence – Wednesday 24 May**

Video resources for Seminar #2 and #3 will be available soon

**Save the date for our next seminar to be held on Wednesday 26 July 2017 @11am**

Hear the latest on global immunisation from Kirsten Ward, Epidemiologist – Monitoring and Evaluation, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Global Immunization Division.

### Meningococcal Disease - One-Day Symposium



#### [Controlling meningococcal disease in 2017: evidence from Australia, NZ and the UK – Friday 7 April 2017](#)

This one-day symposium organised by the NCIRS, in partnership with the National Neisseria Network and the Communicable Diseases Network Australia was held on Friday 7 April 2017. Meningococcal disease in Australia has increased from a nadir of 149 cases in 2013 to 253 cases in 2016, however this remains less than half the 688 cases notified in 2002. This increase has been driven by serogroups W and Y, which now account for over 50% of cases. This workshop brought together national and international experts on meningococcal disease and heard the latest data from meningococcal B and ACWY vaccine programs in the United Kingdom. The workshop aimed to distill the best evidence to inform Australia's response to meningococcal disease in 2017.

Select presentation files from the symposium are now available on the [NCIRS events webpage – click here](#)

## World Immunisation Week - #Vaccineswork

We had a great time promoting World Immunisation Week with our immunisation awareness event at The Children's Hospital at Westmead. The NCIRS NSW Immunisation Specialist Service Clinic was open and providing free flu vaccinations for all children. Here are some photos of our event.



## AusVaxSafety Vaccine Safety Surveillance

### [2017 Influenza vaccine safety confirmed by Australian-first vaccine safety surveillance system](#)

New data released by the AusVaxSafety program have shown the 2017 Influenza vaccines to be safe, with no significant, unexpected or unusual reactions experienced by the close to 40,000 adults and children who have been vaccinated and participated in the program to date. It will soon be flu season and this system tells us the vaccines available this year are safe. [Read more...](#)

The AusVaxSafety website is now live and the vaccine safety surveillance data is updated regularly.

[Visit the AusVaxSafety website](#) for more information about the program and [view the latest data here](#).

## 2015 Annual Immunisation Coverage Report

The latest NCIRS national annual immunisation coverage report is now available along with a summary PDF document of key findings and accompanying PDF slide set containing all tables and figures from the report.

[View the documents here](#)

## International Conferences

The NCIRS team have attended a range of International conferences in 2017 bringing the spotlight on Australian immunisation research and programs.

**Immunization and Vaccines-Related Implementation Research Advisory Committee Meeting, WHO Geneva** – Prof Peter McIntyre

**15th World Congress on Public Health 2017, Melbourne** – A/Prof Kristine Macartney, Dr Anastasia Phillips, Dr Frank Beard

**National Immunisation Network (NIN) Conference, Public Health England regular congress, London** – Prof Peter McIntyre

**2017 FETP International Nights, 66th Annual EIS Conference** – Atlanta, Georgia, USA – Dr Meru Sheel

**ADVAC Advanced Course of Vaccinology, organised by Fondation Mérieux and Université de Genève, - Les Pensières, France** – Dr Frank Beard

**35th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Madrid** – A/Prof Kristine Macartney, A/Prof Nick Wood

## Congratulations to NCIRS Public Health Physician, Dr Anastasia Phillips, recipient of the 2016 Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine (AFPHM) Sue Morey Medal



NCIRS would like to congratulate Dr Anastasia Phillips, recipient of the 2016 Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine (AFPHM) Sue Morey Medal. The AFPHM Sue Morey Medal is awarded to the trainee who has achieved the highest mark in the AFPHM Oral Examination.

Dr Phillips completed the AFPHM Public Health Medicine Advanced Training Program in 2016 while working at NCIRS. She continues to work at the Centre, predominantly in vaccine safety surveillance, and is a PhD Candidate with the University of Sydney. Dr Phillips also holds an academic appointment as Clinical Associate Lecturer with the School of Public Health, University of Sydney.

## Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) 62nd meeting 16 and 17 February 2017 ATAGI Bulletin

NCIRS staff attended and supported the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) 62nd meeting held on 16 and 17 February 2017.

A bulletin that provides a summary of the key points considered by ATAGI at the February meeting is available on the [Immunise Australia website](#).

## Closing the Gap



### [Impact of the national targeted hepatitis A immunisation program in Australia: 2000–2014](#)

This NCIRS paper shows Australia's targeted hepatitis A immunisation program has reduced hepatitis A cases in Indigenous Australians by over 90%, with evidence of substantial herd protection effects in the broader community. This highly successful program, providing free hepatitis A vaccine to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in four jurisdictions, is a prime example of a targeted intervention which has completely 'closed the gap' in relation to this disease, reducing incidence in Indigenous Australians to a level similar to that in non-Indigenous Australians. [Read more...](#)

## Immunisation Update Conference 2017 Dubbo and Orange



Katrina Clark, Nick Wood, and Karen Orr of NCIRS recently attended and presented at the Immunisation Update Conference 2017 in Dubbo and Orange.

Katrina Clark, Nick Wood, and Karen Orr of NCIRS recently attended and presented at the Immunisation Update Conference 2017 in Dubbo and Orange, NSW.

The Western NSW Primary Health Network's (PHN) immunisation conference is for nurses and general practitioners to maintain and improve their knowledge on vaccines.

Topics covered included immunisation coverage reports, adult immunisation, school vaccination programs, travel vaccines and Q fever.

## NCIRS in the Media

[Advances in vaccination safety - Australia's landmark system to monitor adverse reactions is increasing patients' confidence in the safety of vaccines](#) - AusVaxSafety

[No Jab, No Pay: does it actually work?](#) – Prof Peter McIntyre, A/Prof Kristine Macartney

[MJA Podcast: Vaccination rates and incentives, with Prof Peter McIntyre](#)

[Vaccination refusers: No Jab No Pay requires scrutiny, immunisation experts warn](#) – Prof Peter McIntyre

[Pneumococcal pneumonia: the deadly infection we're ignoring](#)– Prof Robert Booy

[How Twitter more accurately maps vaccination coverage than census data](#) – A/Prof Julie Leask

[Two dead, and baby hospitalised with meningococcal](#) – Prof Robert Booy

[Orange nurses get a shot in the arm for their vaccine knowledge during conference](#) – A/Prof Nick Wood, Karen Orr, Katrina Clark

[At the pointy end](#) – Prof Robert Booy

[The unvaccinated adult's guide to getting vaccinated](#) - A/Prof Nick Wood

[Vaccination succeeds in dramatically reducing hepatitis B in NSW Aboriginal women](#) – Dr Lucy Deng

## NCIRS in the Media cont.

[Flu vaccine won't make you completely immune, but it's more important than you think](#) – A/Prof Kristine Macartney

[Is there a test children can take before getting vaccinated, as Pauline Hanson says?](#) – A/Prof Kristine Macartney, A/Prof Nicholas Wood, A/Prof Julie Leask

[Push to extend Q fever vaccine to children as drug study launches](#) – A/Prof Nicholas Wood

[Talking Point: Just no excuse for parents to imperil their children's health](#) – Prof Robert Booy

[AusVaxSafety expansion - a landmark development for vaccine safety](#) – A/Prof Kristine Macartney

[Parents urged to trust instincts in meningococcal outbreak](#) – Prof Robert Booy

[Calls for meningococcal B vaccine to be subsidised](#) – Prof Robert Booy

## NCIRS Publications December 2016 to May 2017

1. Li-Kim-Moy J, Yin JK, Patel C, Beard FH, Chiu C, Macartney KK, McIntyre PB. **Australian vaccine preventable disease epidemiological review series: Influenza 2006 to 2015.** Communicable Diseases Intelligence 2016;40:E482-95. ([Full text](#))
2. Cheng AC, Holmes M, Dwyer DE, Irving LB, Korman TM, Senenayake S, Macartney KK, Blyth CC, Brown S, Waterer GW, Hewer R, Friedman ND, Wark PA, Simpson G, Upham J, Bowler SD, Lessing A, Kotsimbos T, Kelly PM. **Influenza epidemiology in patients admitted to sentinel Australian hospitals in 2015: the Influenza Complications Alert Network.** Communicable Diseases Intelligence 2016;40:E521-6. ([Full text](#))
3. Martin NV, Ong KS, Howden BP, Lahra MM, Lambert SB, Beard FH, Dowse GK, Saul N. **Rise in invasive serogroup W meningococcal disease in Australia, 2013–2015.** Communicable Diseases Intelligence 2016;40:E454-9. ([Full text](#))
4. Corben P, Leask J **To close the childhood immunization gap, we need a richer understanding of parents' decision-making.** Human Vaccines and Immunotherapeutics 2016;12:3168-76. ([Abstract](#))
5. Hendry AJ, Dey A, Beard FH, Khandaker G, Hill R, Macartney KK. **Adverse events following immunisation with bacille Calmette-Guérin vaccination: baseline data to inform monitoring in Australia following introduction of new unregistered BCG vaccine.** Communicable Diseases Intelligence 2016;40:E470-4. ([Full text](#))
6. Hendry AJ. **Australian childhood immunisation coverage, 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 cohort, assessed as at 30 June 2016 [quarterly report].** Communicable Diseases Intelligence 2016;40:E552-3. ([Full Text](#))
7. DeSilva M, Munoz FM, Mcmillan M, Kawai AT, Marshall H, Macartney KK, Joshi J, Onoko M, Elliott Rose A, Dolk H, Trotta F, Spiegel H, Tomczyk S, Shrestha A, Kochhar S, Kharbanda EO, The Brighton Collaboration Congenital Anomalies Working Group. **Congenital anomalies: case definition and guidelines for data collection, analysis, and presentation of immunization safety data.** Vaccine 2016;34:6015-26. ([Full text](#))
8. Snelling T, McIntyre P. **Modeling the effects of priming with the whole-cell *Bordetella pertussis* vaccine [letter].** JAMA Pediatrics 2016;170:1228-9. ([PubMed Link](#))
9. Khandaker G, Britton P, King C, Jones CA. **Long-term outcomes of infectious encephalitis in children: a**

- systematic review and meta-analysis.** *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 2016;58:1108-15. ([Abstract](#))
10. Newcombe PJ, Kaur R, Wood N, Seale H, Palasanthiran P, Snelling TL. **Paediatrician beliefs and practices around influenza vaccination.** *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health* 2016; November: [Epub ahead of print] doi:10.1111/jpc.13406. ([Abstract](#))
11. Reyes JF, Wood JG, Beutels P, Macartney K, McIntyre P, Menzies R, Mealing N, Newall AT. **Beyond expectations: post-implementation data shows rotavirus vaccination is likely cost-saving in Australia.** *Vaccine* 2017;35:345-52. ([Abstract](#))
12. Li-Kim-Moy JP, Yin JK, Heron L, Leask J, Lambert SB, Nissen M, Sloots T, Booy R. **Influenza vaccine efficacy in young children attending childcare: a randomised controlled trial.** *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health* 2017;53:47-54. ([Abstract](#))
13. Wiley KE, Steffens M, Berry N, Leask J. **An audit of the quality of online immunisation information available to Australian parents.** *BMC Public Health* 2017;17:76. ([Full text](#))
14. Patel C, Macartney K. **Supporting the call for a gender-neutral human papillomavirus vaccination in Canada [letter].** *CMAJ Canadian Medical Association Journal* 2017;189:E118. ([PubMed Link](#))
15. King C, Leask J. **The impact of a vaccine scare on parental views, trust and information needs: a qualitative study in Sydney, Australia.** *BMC Public Health* 2017;17:106. ([Full text](#))
16. Jayasinghe S, Menzies R, Chiu C, Toms C, Blyth CC, Krause V, McIntyre P. **Long-term impact of a "3 + 0" schedule for 7- and 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccines on invasive pneumococcal disease in Australia, 2002–2014.** *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 2017;64:175-83. ([Abstract](#))
17. Thompson C, Dey A, Fearnley E, Polkinghorne B, Beard F. **Impact of the national targeted hepatitis A immunisation program in Australia: 2000–2014.** *Vaccine* 2017;35:170-6. ([Full Text](#))
18. Trinh L, Macartney K, McIntyre P, Chiu C, Dey A, Menzies R. **Investigating adverse events following immunisation with pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine using electronic general practice data.** *Vaccine* 2017;35:1524-9. ([Abstract](#))
19. McHugh L, Andrews RM, Lambert SB, Viney KA, Wood N, Perrett KP, Marshall HS, Richmond P, O'Grady KF. **Birth outcomes for Australian mother-infant pairs who received an influenza vaccine during pregnancy, 2012–2014: the FluMum study.** *Vaccine* 2017;35:1403-9. ([Abstract](#))
20. Alqahtani AS, Yamazaki K, Alqahtani WH, Tashani M, Heywood AE, Booy R, Wiley KE, Rashid H. **Australian Hajj pilgrims' perception about mass casualty incidents versus emerging infections at Hajj [letter].** *Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease* 2017;15:81-3. ([PubMed Link](#))
21. Azeem MI, Tashani M, Badahdah AM, Heron L, Pedersen K, Jeffreys N, Kok J, Haworth E, Dwyer DE, Hill-Cawthorne G, Rashid H, Booy R. **Surveillance of Australian Hajj pilgrims for carriage of potentially pathogenic bacteria: data from two pilot studies.** *World Journal of Clinical Cases* 2017;5:102-11. ([Full text](#))
22. Menzies RI, Leask J, Royle J, MacIntyre CR. **Vaccine myopia: adult vaccination also needs attention.** *Medical Journal of Australia* 2017;206:238-9. ([Full text](#))
23. Khandaker G, Beard FH, Dey A, Coulter C, Hendry AJ, Macartney KK. **Evaluation of bacille Calmette-Guérin immunisation programs in Australia.** *Communicable Diseases Intelligence* 2017;41:E33-48. ([Full text](#))
24. Li-Kim-Moy J, Yin JK, Blyth CC, Kesson A, Booy R, Cheng AC, Macartney K. **Influenza hospitalizations in**

**Australian children.** *Epidemiology and Infection* 2017;145:1451-60. ([Abstract](#))

25. Macartney K, Crawford N. **Management and prevention of infectious diseases in IBD patients.** In: Baumgart DC (editor). *Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis: From epidemiology and immunobiology to a rational diagnostic and therapeutic approach*. 2nd ed. Cham, Switzerland: Springer International Publishing; 2017. p. 621-38.

26. Tashani M, Heron L, Wong M, Rashid H, Booy R. **Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis vaccine may suppress the immune response to subsequent immunization with pneumococcal CRM<sub>197</sub>-conjugate vaccine (coadministered with quadrivalent meningococcal TT-conjugate vaccine): a randomized, controlled trial.** *Journal of Travel Medicine* 2017;24:tax006. ([Abstract](#))

27. Beard FH, Leask J, McIntyre PB. **No Jab, No Pay and vaccine refusal in Australia: the jury is out.** *Medical Journal of Australia* 2017;206:381-3. ([Full text](#))

28. Dunn AG, Surian D, Leask J, Dey A, Mandl KD, Coiera E. **Mapping information exposure on social media to explain differences in HPV vaccine coverage in the United States.** *Vaccine* 2017;35:3033-40. ([Full text](#))

29. Beard F, Wood N. **To sign or not to sign. Dealing with requests for vaccination exemption.** *Medicine Today* 2017;18:63-5. ([Full text](#))

30. Cheng AC, Macartney KK, Waterer GW, Kotsimbos T, Kelly PM, Blyth CC. **Repeated vaccination does not appear to impact on influenza vaccine effectiveness against hospitalisation with confirmed influenza.** *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 2017; March: [Epub ahead of print].(No abstract available)

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32. Khatami A, Khan F, Macartney KK. **Enteric fever in children in Western Sydney, Australia, 2003–2015.** *Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal* 2017; April: [Epub ahead of print] doi:10.1097/inf.0000000000001606. ([Abstract](#))

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34. Yin JK, Heywood AE, Georgousakis M, King C, Chiu C, Isaacs D, Macartney KK. **Systematic review and meta-analysis of indirect protection afforded by vaccinating children against seasonal influenza: implications for policy.** *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 2017; May: [Epub ahead of print] doi:10.1093/cid/cix420 ([Abstract](#))

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