



Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing

Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation

ATAGI Bulletin

29th Meeting – 24-25 November 2005

- ATAGI held its first face to face meeting following the 2005-06 Budget announcement on immunisation advisory structures. ATAGI now has a revised membership with Professor Terry Nolan as Chair, and is operating with new Terms of Reference and standard operating procedures.
- The funding advisory function of ATAGI has been transferred to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC). ATAGI will advise PBAC on matters relating to the ongoing strength of evidence pertaining to existing, new and emerging vaccines in relation to their effectiveness and use in Australian populations. Professor Lloyd Sansom, PBAC Chair, attended the meeting to discuss how this process would operate.
- ATAGI recommenced planning for development of the 9th Edition of the Australian Immunisation Handbook. The National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS) has received additional funding to assist ATAGI in the coordination, reviewing and writing of the 9th Edition Handbook.
- ATAGI agreed to membership, Terms of Reference and timelines for a Rotavirus Working Party, a Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Working Party, and a Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella (MMRV) and Zoster Working Party.
- ATAGI discussed the implications of the recent CSL decision to discontinue manufacture of several vaccines, including Q fever vaccine (Q-Vax).
- Three ATAGI meetings are scheduled for 2006 – 9-10 February, 7-8 June, and 5-6 October.
- ATAGI agreed that a bulletin will be disseminated to key stakeholders as soon as possible after each meeting.