

About the Influenza Specialist Group (ISG)

The Influenza Specialist Group (ISG) consists of medical and scientific specialists from around Australia and New Zealand with an interest in influenza and other infectious respiratory diseases.

Mission

Increase understanding of the impact of influenza and its relationships to other infectious respiratory diseases.

Reduce the public health impact of influenza through increased awareness among consumers and healthcare professionals and of best practice in the prevention and treatment of influenza.

Based on scientific studies and available evidence, influence Australian policy development in the area of respiratory diseases.

Annual Scientific Meeting

Each year, the ISG commences its program of activities with the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM), held in Melbourne at the beginning of February. Attendees include members of the scientific and medical community, government health officials, pharmaceutical industry representatives, academics, and delegates from other health related NGOs.

Sponsorship & Support

The ISG is able to carry out its important work thanks to the generosity of its sponsors and in-kind supporters. Regardless of the source of sponsorship or support, full control over all of the ISG's activities and published materials is ensured through its Board of Directors.

More information

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Annual Scientific Meeting 2016 Program

31 January & 1 February 2016
Parkroyal Melbourne Airport

4.30pm	Arrival drinks
5.00pm	Welcome and introduction Prof Lou Irving – Meeting Chair Director of Respiratory Medicine, Melbourne Health, ISG Member
5.10pm	An update on the 2015 and 2015-6 influenza seasons Dr Ian Barr – Acting Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference & Research on Influenza, Melbourne, ISG Member
5.35pm	Does our seasonal flu experience inform Australia’s pandemic response? Prof Chris Baggoley – Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health
6.00pm	Entrée
6.20pm	SmartVax Dr Alan Leeb – GP, Illawarra Health Centre, Western Australia
6.45pm	Main course
7.20pm	Advances in technology for disease tracking & consumer behaviour Ms Josie Brown – APAC Digital Director, J.Walter Thompson Melbourne
7.45pm	Dessert
8.15pm	Flu Trivia Quiz
8.40pm	Summary and overview Prof Lou Irving
8.50pm	Close

8.30am	Coffee
8.50am	Welcome and introduction Prof Lou Irving – Meeting Chair Director of Respiratory Medicine, Melbourne Health, ISG Member

Session 1: Paediatric Influenza

Chair: Prof Paul Van Buynder – Public Health Staff Specialist, Gold Coast Health Service. Adjunct Professor, Griffith University, Queensland, Simon Fraser University, British Columbia. ISG Director

9.00am	Introduction to paediatric influenza Prof Paul Van Buynder
9.15am	UK experience with a paediatric vaccination program Dr Richard Pebody, pre-recorded presentation, followed by phone Q&A – National Institute for Health Research, Health Protection Research Unit in Respiratory Infections, Imperial College London
10.00am	Review of influenza vaccine adverse events in children Dr Jean Li-Kim-Moy – Clinical Research Fellow NCIRS, Paediatrician
10.20am	Progress in identifying and overcoming paediatric vaccine reactogenicity Dr Alan Hampson, OAM – Chairman of the ISG
10.35am	Morning tea

Session 2: New and Improved Adult Vaccines

Chair: Prof Lou Irving

11.00am	Herpes Zoster – the disease and the vaccines Prof Anthony Cunningham – Executive Director, Westmead Institute for Medical Research and the Centre for Virus Research
11.25am	Update on the status of new/improved influenza vaccines - QIV, High Dose, Adjuvanted Prof Paul Van Buynder – Public Health Staff Specialist, Gold Coast Health Service. Adjunct Professor, Griffith University, Queensland, Simon Fraser University, British Columbia. ISG Director



Day Two: Monday 1 February 2016 continued

Session 3: Maternal Immunisation

Chair: Dr Elizabeth McCarthy – Obstetrician, Senior Lecturer, Mercy Hospital for Women, University of Melbourne. ISG Member

11.50am	Influenza and pertussis vaccination – the FluMum study Prof Ross Andrews – Deputy Director, Menzies School of Health Research, Charles Darwin University
12.15pm	dTap – the first pertussis vaccine every baby gets? Prof Peter McIntyre – Director, NCIRS. Childrens Hospital, Westmead
12.30pm	Pertussis in older adults – how much and how preventable? Data from the 45 and Up study A/Prof Bette Liu – Epidemiologist, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of NSW

12.45pm	Progress towards a whole of life vaccination register Mr Joel Willis – Director, Immunisation Registers Section, Immunisation Branch – Office of Health Protection, Department of Health
1.05pm	Lunch

Session 4: Neuraminidase Inhibitors: the Great Debate – Panel Discussion

Chair: Clin Prof David Smith – Clinical Microbiologist/Virologist, Division of Microbiology & Infectious Diseases; Network Director, PathWest QEII Medical Centre. Clin Prof, School of Path & Lab Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Western Australia, ISG Member

2.00pm	PANEL Uncomplicated community illness vs hospitalized patients with severe disease: A/Prof Aeron Hurt – Acting Deputy Director, VIDRL. ISG Member Nosocomial outbreaks in hospitals: Prof Heath Kelly – Formerly Head, Epidemiology and Surveillance, VIDRL. ISG Member Pandemics: A/Prof Aeron Hurt – Acting Deputy Director, VIDRL. ISG Member Aged care environments: Prof Robert Booy – Head, Clinical Research, NCIRS. ISG Director ICU/critical care: Prof Allen Cheng – Director, Epidemiology & Preventative Medicine, Alfred Health, Monash University
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Session 5: Pneumococcal Disease

2.50pm	Paediatric pneumococcal vaccination Prof Kim Mulholland – Professorial Fellow, Pneumococcal Research, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute
3.15pm	Adult vaccination and the role of polysaccharide and conjugate vaccines Prof David Goldblatt – Professor of Vaccinology and Immunology, Institute of Child Health, University College London
3.40pm	Afternoon tea

Session 6: Influenza Specialist Group Proposed changes to ISG

4.10pm	Overview of proposed ISG 2016 awareness program Mr Kim Sampson ¹ and Ms Susanne Sperber ² 1 CEO of the ISG 2 ISG Communications Specialist
4.30pm	Summary and overview Prof Lou Irving
4.40pm	Close



Attendees List 2016

SURNAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	ORGANISATION
Aldridge	Jeneane	Clinical Services Manager	Bupa
Andrews	Prof Ross	Deputy Director	Menzies School of Health Research
Baggoley	Prof Chris	Chief Medical Officer	Australian Government Department of Health
Barr	Dr Ian	Deputy Director	WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza
Bleeze	Miss Megan	Medical Student	University of Notre Dame
Blyth	Dr Christopher	Paediatric Infectious Diseases Physician, Clinical Microbiologist	Princess Margaret Hospital
Booy	Prof Robert	Head of Research, ISG Director	National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS)
Brown	Ms Josie	APAC Director of Digital	J Walter Thompson
Burns	Dr Penny	GP	RACGP
Cameron	Amanda	Deputy Nurse	Bupa
Canagasingham	Mr Peter	Senior Product Manager – ANZ	BGP Products
Carrol	Mr Paul	Key Account Manager	Pfizer
Cheng	A/Prof Allen	Director, Infection Prevention and Healthcare	Alfred Hospital
Chilver	Ms Monique	Program Manager	The Australian Sentinel Practices Research Network (ASPREN)
Clark	Dr Richard	Senior Research Fellow	AHPRA/HealthFX
Cooper	Miss Christine	Key Account Manager -Vaccines	Pfizer
Cripps	Prof Allan	Pro Vice Chancellor (Health)	Griffith University
Crosthwaite	Mr Allan	Branch Director, Victoria	Pharmacy Guild of Australia
Cunningham	Prof Tony	Executive Director	Westmead Millennium Institute for Medical Research
Dillon	Ms Gemma	Medical Affairs	Seqirus
Dwyer	Dr Dominic	Medical Virologist	Westmead Hospital
Eizenberg	Dr Claire	Director	Doctors of Ivanhoe
Eizenberg	Dr Peter	Executive Director	NE Valley Division of General Practice
Everett	Mr Darius	Director Immunisation Programs, Immunisation Branch	Office of Health Protection, Australian Government Department of Health
Exadactylos	Ms Katina	Medical Manager	Seqirus
Falconer-Flint	Mr Roger	Head of Influenza	AstraZeneca
Forde	Dr Andrea	ANZ Medical Director - Vaccines	GSK
Forrai	Miss Ariel	Brand Manager	GSK
Geddes	Mrs Jayne	Administration Officer	Influenza Specialist Group
Gilchrist	Mr Steven	Student	University of Adelaide (ASPREN)
Goldblatt	Prof David	NIHR Senior Investigator	University College London
Gomez	Ms Marsha	Pharmacist Advisor	Pharmacy Guild of Australia
Griffin	Dr Paul	Director of Infectious Diseases	Mater Hospital
Grundling	Mrs Anne-Marie	Senior Product Manager	Sanofi Pasteur
Hampson	Dr Alan	ISG Chairman	ISG / Interflu Pty Ltd.
Harper	Ms Susan	Manager, Infection Control	Peter McCullum Cancer Institute
Harris	Dr Miranda	Medical Officer	Therapeutic Goods Administration
Harris	Ms Sharon	Immunisation Coordinator Manager	Nillumbik Community Health Service
Harvey	Dr Tim	Medical Affairs Director	Sanofi Pasteur
Hohl	Dr Norman	Medical Director	Travel Health Doctors – Health HQ
Hurt	A/Prof Aeron	Acting Deputy Director	Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory (VIDRL)
Hurwitz	Clin A/Prof Mark	Senior Consultant	Canberra Hospital
Irving	Prof Lou	Director of Respiratory Medicine	Melbourne Health
Jennings	A/Prof Lance	Clinical Virologist	Canterbury Health Laboratories, NZ
Jones	Dr Leanne	GP, Director ISG	Caledonian Medical Centre, Launceston
Kaczmarek	Miss Marlena	PhD Student	University of Queensland
Kalker	Miss Sabine	Health & Wellbeing Coordinator	Commonwealth Bank Australia
Kedzierska	A/Prof Katherine	Laboratory Head	University of Melbourne
Kelly	A/Prof Heath	Former Head of Epidemiology & Surveillance	Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory (VIDRL)
Kohn	Dr Mel	Medical Director	MSD
Kotsimbos	A/Prof Tom	Specialist Respiratory and Transplant Physician	Lung Foundation Australia

SURNAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	ORGANISATION
Lajoie	Ms Kerry	Director	Vaccin8@Work
Leeb	Dr Alan	GP	SmartVax
Leong	Dr Jane	VP, Scientific Affairs	Seqirus
Li-Kim-Moy	Dr Jean	Clinical Research Fellow	National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS)
Litt	A/Prof John	GP Teaching Co-ordinator	Flinders University
Liu	A/Prof Bette	Epidemiologist	School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of NSW
Macartney	A/Prof Kristine	Deputy Director	National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS)
Malamatinas	Mr Jim	Brand Manager	Seqirus
Mansberg	Dr Ginni	GP, Director ISG	Sans Souci Medical Practice
Marshall	A/Prof Helen	Director, Vaccinology & Immunology Research Trials Unit	University of Adelaide
Matthews	Miss Erin	Brand Manager	Seqirus
McArdie	Ms Barbara	National Influenza Coordinator	Immunisation Advisory Centre, University of Auckland
McCarthy	Dr Elizabeth	Senior Lecturer	Department Obstetrics & Gynaecology, University of Melbourne
McCaw	Dr James	A/Prof in Mathematical Biology	University of Melbourne
McIntyre	Prof Peter	Director	National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS)
Minarovic	Dr Nadia	Medical Manager	Sanofi Pasteur
Mitchell	Ms Janine	Associate Clinical Services Coordinator	Immunisation Section, SA Health
Mulholland	Prof Kim	Professorial Fellow	Murdoch Children's Research Institute
Muscatello	Dr David	Senior Lecturer	University of NSW
Nguyen	Dr Oanh	Postdoctoral Scientist	University of Melbourne
O'Callaghan	Mrs Ciara	Medical Manager	Roche
O'Dwyer	Dr Aoife	Medical Science Liaison	GSK
Passaris	Ms Irene	Director, Communicable Disease Control Section	ACT Health
Pearce	Dr Rodney	GP, Director ISG	Athelstone Medical Clinic
Pebody	Dr Richard	Head of Flu Surveillance	Public Health England
Philips	Ms Leanne	Nurse Practitioner Candidate	Children's Health Queensland
Phung	Mss Anh	Senior Medical Virologist	Seqirus
Richmond	Prof Peter	Professor	University of WA
Roberts	Ms Loretta	National Manager	Immunisation Advisory Centre
Ruta	Dr Leah-Anne	Medical Manager	GSK
Ryan	Ms Jill	Employee Health Nurse	St Vincent's Hospital
Sampson	Mr Kim	CEO	Influenza Specialist Group
Sampson	Ms Tessa	Medical Librarian	Influenza Specialist Group
Sfelagis	Ms Helena	Medical Product Specialist	Seqirus
Smith	Clin Prof David	Site Director	PathWest Laboratory Medicine WA
Sperber	Ms Susanne	Communications Specialist	Influenza Specialist Group
Stansfield	Mr Damien	Head of Business Development	Roche
Stuart	A/Prof Rhonda	Director Infection Control	Monash Health
Sullivan	Dr Sheena	Epidemiologist	WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference & Research on Influenza
Swinerton	Ms Angela	Senior Brand Manager	Pfizer
Van Buynder	Prof Paul	Public Medical Health Officer, Director ISG	Gold Coast Hospital & Health Service
Van den Berg	Dr Marius	Market Access Manager	BGP Products
Vial	Mr Christophe	Public Immunisation Policy	Sanofi Pasteur
Wall	Ms Marita	Ombudsman, Director ISG	Financial Ombudsman Service
Walmsley	Dr Marita	Manager International Policy, Director ISG	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources (DSEDBI)
Watson	Ms Maureen	Nursing Director	Immunisation Section CDBC, Department of Health, South Australia
Whorlow	Ms Kristine	CEO	National Asthma Council of Australia
Williams	Dr Scott	Medical Director	Pfizer
Willis	Mr Joel	Director, Immunisation Registers Section	Office of Health Protection, Australian Government Department of Health
Woodward	A/Prof Michael	Director Aged Care Services	Austin Health

