



**Influenza Specialist Group**

## **2015 Program**

**Annual Scientific Meeting**

**1 & 2 February 2015**

**Park Royal Hotel – Melbourne Airport  
Melbourne, Australia**

**Day One: Sunday 1 February 2015**  
**Macedon Room**

- 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 2014 and 2014-5 influenza seasons**  
Dr Ian Barr  
*Deputy Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference & Research on Influenza, Melbourne, ISG Member*
- 5.35pm **Update on pandemic planning**  
Dr Jenny Firman  
*Principal Medical Advisor, Office of Health Protection, Department of Health.*
- 6.00pm -----Entrée served-----
- 6.20pm **Update on pandemic threats and role of social media**  
A/Prof Ian Mackay  
*Qpid Laboratory, SASVRC, QCMRI, University of Queensland*
- 6.45pm -----Main course served-----
- 7.20pm **Antiviral efficacy assessment – Evidence basis and application to pandemic scenarios**  
A/Prof Jodie McVernon  
*Head, Modelling & Simulation Group, University of Melbourne, ISG Director*
- 7.45pm -----Dessert served-----
- 8.15pm **Flu Trivia Quiz**
- 8.40pm **Summary and overview**  
Professor Lou Irving
- 8.50pm **Close**

**Day Two: Monday 2 February 2014**  
**Victoria Ballroom**

8.30am Coffee

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

**Session 1: Influenza Vaccines**

9.00am **Vaccine effectiveness – assessing pros & cons of “case negative” approach**  
Dr Sheena Sullivan  
*Epidemiologist, WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference & Research on Influenza, Melbourne*

9.25am **Report on WAIVE study**  
A/Prof Chris Blyth  
*Paediatric Infectious Diseases Physician and Clinical Microbiologist, School of Paediatrics and Child Health (SPACH), University of Western Australia, ISG Member*

9.50am **LAIV in children and adolescents – an update**  
Dr Nigel Crawford  
*Medical Head of Immunisation Services, Royal Children’s Hospital; Deputy Director, SAEFVIC, Murdoch Children’s Research Institute, ISG Director*

10.15am **NIP: Annual seasonal influenza program**  
Ms Gayle Anderson  
*Assistant Secretary, Immunisation Branch, Department of Health*

10.40am -----Morning Tea-----

11.10am **Impact & cost effectiveness of QIV & economics of >65 vaccination**  
Dr Anthony Newall  
*Senior Lecturer in health economics, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW Australia*

**Session 2: Keeping Track of Vaccinations**

11.35am **Update – Adult vaccination**  
Prof Raina MacIntyre  
*Head of the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of NSW, ISG Member*

12.00pm **Use of vaccination registers in Australia - Panel discussion**  
Chair: A/Prof Jodie McVernon  
*Head, Modelling & Simulation Group, University of Melbourne, ISG Director*  
Panel:

- Dr Rod Pearce - AM, Adelaide and country GP; Member of ATAGI; Medical Officer, Eastern Health Authority and Royal District Nursing Service; ISG Director
- Prof Michael Woodward - Head of Aged Care, Austin Health, ISG Member
- Dr Stephen Lambert - Senior Director, Communicable Diseases Unit, Queensland Health
- Prof Ross Andrews - Deputy Director, Menzies School of Health Research, NT, ISG Member

1.00pm -----Lunch-----

### **Session 3: Healthcare Worker Vaccination**

- 2.00pm      **Mandatory HCW "vaccination or mask policy" – the British Columbia experience**  
Prof Paul Van Buynder  
*Formerly Chief Medical Officer, Fraser Health Authority, British Columbia, Canada, ISG Member*
- 2.25pm      **Healthcare worker vaccination – ISG Position Statement**  
Dr Rod Pearce  
*AM, Adelaide and country GP; Member of ATAGI; Medical Officer, Eastern Health Authority and Royal District Nursing Service; ISG Director*

### **Session 3: Pneumococcal Disease**

- 2.45pm      **Value of pneumococcal vaccination in children and the wider community**  
Prof Robert Booy  
*Head of Research, National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance of Vaccine Preventable Diseases, ISG Director*
- 3.15pm      **Pneumococcal disease: serotype replacement and its importance**  
Dr Catherine Satzke  
*Research Fellow, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute*
- 3.45pm      -----Afternoon tea-----

### **Session 4: Influenza Specialist Group**

- 4.15pm      **Overview of proposed ISG 2015 awareness program**  
Mr Kim Sampson<sup>1</sup> & Ms Susanne Sperber<sup>2</sup>  
*1. ISG CEO  
2. ISG Communications Specialist*
- 4.30pm      **Summary and overview**  
Prof Lou Irving
- 4.40pm      **Close**

## **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 NGO's.

### **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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