



**NHMRC CENTRE OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE
in POPULATION HEALTH RESEARCH**

Immunisation in Under Studied and Special Risk Populations:
'Closing the Gap in Knowledge through a Multidisciplinary Approach'



**Public Health Association
AUSTRALIA**

Equity in disease prevention: vaccines for the elderly



Friday, 20th June (9am – 5pm)
Lakeside 3, Bayview On the Park Hotel, ([Map](#))
52 Queens Road, Melbourne
VIC 3004, Australia

We live in an ageing society, where positive ageing and prevention are key to a healthy future. Vaccines can prevent disease, suffering and death. The elderly are at increased risks of vaccine preventable diseases such as influenza, pneumococcal disease, herpes zoster and pertussis. Immunisation is an effective and available strategy for reducing disease burden in the elderly, yet vaccines for the elderly are under-utilised and under-valued compared to children. *“Pneumonia is the old man’s friend”* is a common misperception, laden with value judgement about the elderly and does not take into account the suffering associated with acute infections, nor the transmissibility to others. The “older” elderly and people with dementia are less likely to be vaccinated than younger, more health elderly. For many reasons, there are missed opportunities for preventing vaccine preventable-diseases and suffering in the elderly.

The NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in Population Health “Immunisation in under Studied and Special Risk Populations: Closing the Gap in Knowledge through a Multidisciplinary Approach” is dedicated to identifying and addressing challenges of immunisation for elderly population as one of its four theme areas.

The workshop will feature international and national speakers on aging and vaccinology (pneumococcal disease, quadrivalent influenza vaccine, herpes zoster and pertussis), including Professor David Goldblatt, University College London who will speak on the future of pneumococcal vaccines for the elderly. The workshop will provide an update on the latest evidence around immunisation for the elderly, and will address barriers for prevention of infection in the elderly. A final program will follow.

Target groups :

Stakeholders in immunisation, ageing and health, primary care, health services providers for the elderly group, insurance, researchers, government and non government organisations, community representatives, and advocacy groups.

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For further information visit our website [here](#) or contact Ms Elizabeth Kpozehouen: e.kpozehouen@unsw.edu.au

