Australian Vaccinology Course

Some final words



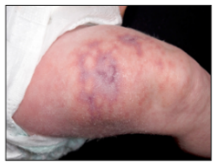
21st October 2026

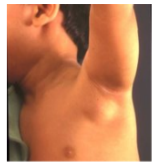
Mike Gold, Kristine, Macartney, Julie Leask, Meru Sheel, Allen Cheng, Katie Flanagan, Peter McIntyre, Helen Marshall

NCIRS National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance Australia

Vaccine safety – Mike Gold

- AEFI definition
- Risk profile at start of vaccine introduction
- "sometimes we infer safety"
- Trust and Trustworthiness

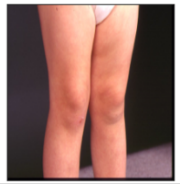








4 months of age	8 years of age	3 months of age	4 years of age
Infanrix hexa Onset 6 hours Progressive over 48 hours	BCG Onset 2-3 months	BCG Onset 2-3 months Cluster of BCG same	DTaP Onset after 24 hours
Inflammatory non-infective	BCG Adenitis	BCG adenitis – cluster	Extensive Limb Swelling
Immunisation Error Likely superficial injection	**Immunisation error** Subcutaneous administration	**Vaccine quality defect** Cluster same batch-different providers	**Vaccine product**

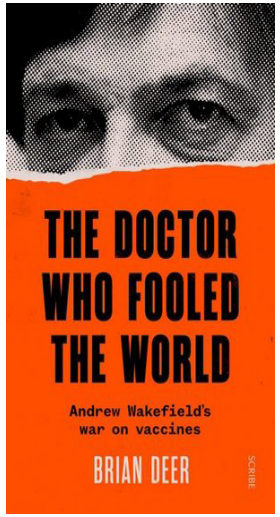






5 years of age	12 months of age	12 years of age
DTaP Immediate onset of pain Progressive swelling and pain	MMR Hib Onset 1-2 days	HPV (LHS) Onset over 1 week and persisted
Bursitis right knee	Inflammatory non-infective	Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS)
Immunisation Error Injection into knee bursa	**Co-incidental** Contact dermatitis Chlorhexidine	**Co-incidental** (Trigger)

"Avoid the infrapatellar bursa"





Vaccine safety – Kristine Macartney





Principles of vaccine risk communication – Julie Leask



Covello's cardinal rules (principles) of risk communication

1. **Accept and involve the public**
2. Listen and be responsive to specific public concerns
3. Be honest, frank and open
4. **Speak clearly and with compassion**
5. Involve and communicate with all stakeholders
6. **Work with other credible sources**
7. Meet the needs of the media
8. **Plan and evaluate efforts**

Adapted from Vincent Covello's Seven Cardinal Rules of Risk Communication, US EPA

- Go out and debunk and prebunk
- You are trusted people
- Keep communicating after events

You put theory into practice with a case scenario - everyone



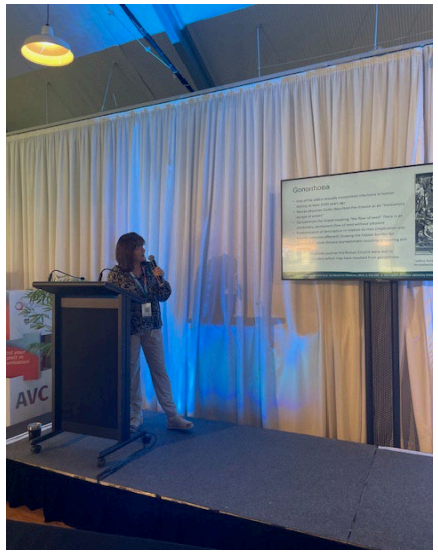


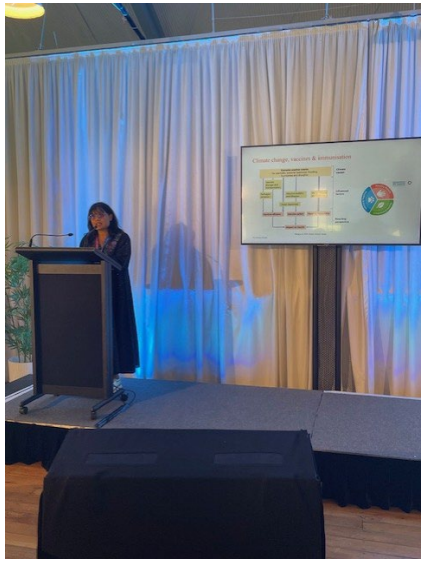
Some great ideas from the all the groups including some highly engaging TikTok ideas

Expert panel – reflections on scenario and relationship to real life



Hot topics – Meru, Peter, Helen, Allen and Katie









- One Health topic – teaser
- Off target effects - Can a vaccine protect against dementia?
- Can a meningococcal vaccine protect against gonorrhea?
- What happening with Avian flu?
- Future of vaccine delivery – aerosol

Future of vaccine delivery

Naughty Peter snuck out of quarantine

He went to ask an expert (Professor Margaret Burgess – first Director of NCIRS) on her thoughts about the future of vaccines



THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Slides will be available for you all

It has been fantastic having you attend the 2026 course



You are now part of the Australian Vaccinology Course alumni

-  LinkedIn
  https://www.linkedin.com
  - Connect with other participants and Faculty

- Can sign up to Alumni Refresher Vaccinology Course (ARVAC) - *we can send info on how to do this*

- Applications will open for 2027 course and we would love you to recommend this course to colleagues

A huge thanks to our Australian Vaccinology Course Faculty



Professor
Nicholas Wood



Professor
Kristine Macartney



Professor
Peter McIntyre AO



Associate Professor
Aditi Dey



Professor
Chris Blyth



Professor
Julia Brotherton



Professor
Allen Cheng



Ms Katrina Clark



Professor
Katie Flanagan



Professor
Michelle Giles



Professor
Michael Gold



Professor
Julie Leask AO



Professor
Bette Liu



Professor
Helen Marshall



Dr
Chris Morgan



Professor Meru Sheel

The engine room

- Genevieve Foster
- Belinda Smith
- Aditi Dey
- Scott Mair

- Thanks to the NCIRS comms team
  - Nidhi Sodhi
  - Jackson Young
  - Shane Parker




Thanks for attending the 2026 Australian Vaccinology Course