



Pre-pregnancy and pregnancy related vaccinations

This statement has been developed and reviewed by the Women's Health Committee and approved by the RANZCOG Board and Council.

A list of Women's Health Committee Members can be found in [Appendix A](#).

Disclosure statements have been received from all members of this committee.

Disclaimer This information is intended to provide general advice to practitioners. This information should not be relied on as a substitute for proper assessment with respect to the particular circumstances of each case and the needs of any patient. This document reflects emerging clinical and scientific advances as of the date issued and is subject to change. The document has been prepared having regard to general circumstances.

First endorsed by RANZCOG: March 2011
Current: March 2014
Review due: March 2017

Background: This statement was first developed by Women's Health Committee in March 2011 and most recently reviewed in March 2014.

Funding: The development and review of this statement was funded by RANZCOG.

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All women, considering pregnancy or pregnant, should be aware of their vaccination status and, if uncertain, liaise with their general practitioner.

The RANZCOG would encourage all women, their families and health care providers to review the current and regularly updated vaccination recommendations published and posted by Australian and New Zealand Health departments and Government bodies.

The Australian Immunisation Handbook 10th edition provides extensive and complete advice for vaccination and pregnancy.

Health care workers should be aware that specific recommendations may change with seasonal or pandemic risks so regular reviewing of vaccination advice is warranted.

Useful Links

The Australian Immunisation Handbook

<http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/Handbook10-home>

New Zealand Immunisation Handbook

<http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/immunisation-handbook-2011>

The Australian Immunisation Handbook – Pregnancy

<http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/handbook10-3-3>

Pregnancy and Immunisation - ACT Health

<http://health.act.gov.au/publications/fact-sheets/pregnancy-and-immunisation>

Immunisation and Pregnancy - Children, Youth and Women's Health Services - SA Health

<http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetails.aspx?p=438&np=455&id=2735>

Links to other College statements

[Evidence-based Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology \(C-Gen 15\)](#)

[Influenza vaccination during pregnancy \(and in women planning pregnancy\) \(C-Obs 45\)](#)

[Pre Pregnancy Counselling \(C-Obs 3b\)](#)

Patient information

A range of RANZCOG Patient Information Pamphlets can be ordered via:

<https://www.ranzcog.edu.au/Womens-Health/Patient-Information-Guides/Patient-Information-Pamphlets>

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Appendices

Appendix A Women's Health Committee Membership

Name	Position on Committee
Associate Professor Stephen Robson	Chair
Professor Susan Walker	Deputy Chair - Obstetrics
Dr Gino Pecoraro	Deputy Chair - Gynaecology
Professor Yee Leung	Member
Associate Professor Anuschirawan Yazdani	Member
Dr Simon Craig	Member
Associate Professor Paul Duggan	Member
Dr Vijay Roach	Member
Dr Stephen Lyons	Member
Dr Ian Page	Member
Dr Donald Clark	Member
Dr Amber Moore	Member
Dr Martin Ritossa	Member
Dr Benjamin Bopp	Member
Dr James Harvey	Member
Dr John Tait	Member
Dr Anthony Frumar	Member
Associate Professor Kirsten Black	Member
Dr Jacqueline Boyle	Chair of IWHC
Dr Louise Sterling	GPOAC representative
Ms Catherine Whitby	Council Consumer representative
Ms Susan Hughes	Consumer representative
Ms Sherryn Elworthy	Midwifery representative
Dr Scott White	Trainee representative
Dr Agnes Wilson	RANZCOG Guideline developer

Appendix B Overview of the development and review process for this statement

i. Steps in developing and updating this statement

This statement was originally developed in July 1992 and was most recently reviewed in March 2014. The Women's Health Committee carried out the following steps in reviewing this statement:

- Declarations of interest were sought from all members prior to reviewing this statement.
- Structured clinical questions were developed and agreed upon.
- An updated literature search to answer the clinical questions was undertaken.
- At the March 2014 face-to-face committee meeting, the existing consensus-based recommendations were reviewed and updated (where appropriate) based on the available body of evidence and clinical expertise. Recommendations were graded as set out below in Appendix B part iii)

ii. Declaration of interest process and management

Declaring interests is essential in order to prevent any potential conflict between the private interests of members, and their duties as part of the Women's Health Committee.

A declaration of interest form specific to guidelines and statements was developed by RANZCOG and approved by the RANZCOG Board in September 2012. The Women's Health Committee members

were required to declare their relevant interests in writing on this form prior to participating in the review of this statement.

Members were required to update their information as soon as they become aware of any changes to their interests and there was also a standing agenda item at each meeting where declarations of interest were called for and recorded as part of the meeting minutes.

There were no significant real or perceived conflicts of interest that required management during the process of updating this statement.

iii. Grading of recommendations

Each recommendation in this College statement is given an overall grade as per the table below, based on the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Levels of Evidence and Grades of Recommendations for Developers of Guidelines (2009). Where no robust evidence was available but there was sufficient consensus within the Women’s Health Committee, consensus-based recommendations were developed or existing ones updated and are identifiable as such. Consensus-based recommendations were agreed to by the entire committee. Good Practice Notes are highlighted throughout and provide practical guidance to facilitate implementation. These were also developed through consensus of the entire committee.

Recommendation category		Description
Evidence-based	A	Body of evidence can be trusted to guide practice
	B	Body of evidence can be trusted to guide practice in most situations
	C	Body of evidence provides some support for recommendation(s) but care should be taken in its application
	D	The body of evidence is weak and the recommendation must be applied with caution
Consensus-based		Recommendation based on clinical opinion and expertise as insufficient evidence available
Good Practice Note		Practical advice and information based on clinical opinion and expertise

Appendix C Full Disclaimer

This information is intended to provide general advice to practitioners, and should not be relied on as a substitute for proper assessment with respect to the particular circumstances of each case and the needs of any patient.

This information has been prepared having regard to general circumstances. It is the responsibility of each practitioner to have regard to the particular circumstances of each case. Clinical management should be responsive to the needs of the individual patient and the particular circumstances of each case.

This information has been prepared having regard to the information available at the time of its preparation, and each practitioner should have regard to relevant information, research or material which may have been published or become available subsequently.

Whilst the College endeavours to ensure that information is accurate and current at the time of preparation, it takes no responsibility for matters arising from changed circumstances or information or material that may have become subsequently available.

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