

Prof. Ross Andrews

Chair at Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (ATAGI)

Brisbane, , AU

Prof. Andrews specializes in vaccine-preventable diseases and skin infections.

Biography

Professor Andrews is an epidemiologist with major research interests in vaccine-preventable diseases and skin infections. He is the current Chair of the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI), Australia's peak ministerial immunisation advisory committee. Ross has \$22.1m in research funding; 93 peer-reviewed publications; supervised ten higher degree by research (HDR) students to completion (four as primary supervisor) and currently supervises three HDR students. In a world first, he led a randomised controlled trial of pneumococcal vaccine in pregnancy, called PneuMum, which found evidence suggestive of an impact against ear disease in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants (Vaccine 2015) and now leads a multi-centre cohort study, called FluMum, which is assessing impact of influenza vaccination in pregnancy amongst 10,000 mother-infant pairs (BMJ Open 2014). His work on skin infections has demonstrated that: a short course oral antibiotic is an effective alternative to penicillin injections for treatment of skin sores (The Lancet 2014); and the virtually elimination of scabies ? 94 per cent reduction in prevalence ? following introduction an oral ivermectin-based drug administration program in Fiji (New Engl J Med 2015). Underpinning his research approach has been his demonstrated commitment to community engagement and capacity building.

Industry Expertise

Research

Areas of Expertise

Vaccination, Skin Infections, Vaccine-preventable Diseases

Affiliations

NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Population Health Research: Scientific Advisory Board,
Influenza Specialist Group: Panelist

Education

The Australian National University

Ph.D. Epidemiology

The Australian National University

MAppEpid Epidemiology

Monash University
MPH Public Health

Swinburne University of Technology
DipAppSci (Env Hlth) Environmental Health

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