







The Adult Immunization Board (AIB)

A platform to provide multidisciplinary guidelines for the implementation and optimization of adult immunization in Europe

S Maggi 1, J Pattyn 2, M Del Riccio 3, G Hendrickx 2, S Boccalini 3, A Bechini 3, P Van Damme 2, P Bonanni 3

Adult Immunization Board Advisor; 2 Centre for the Evaluation of Vaccination, Vaccine & Infectious Disease Institute, University of Antwerp - Antwerp (Belgium); 3 Department of Health Sciences, University of Florence – Florence (Italy)

Background

Growing number and share of older people in Europe

Concerning low adult vaccination coverage

Barriers experienced during implementation of COVID-19 vaccination strategies

Increasing number of questions about adult immunization



in Europe



experience with the Viral Hepatitis Prevention Board (since 1992) and the HPV Prevention and Control Board (since 2015)





AIB is an **independent**, **international**, and **multidisciplinary group of +/- 24** advisors in adult immunization. The AIB advisors set the strategy and define the actions of the AIB

The purpose of the AIB is to contribute to the reduction of the impact of vaccine-preventable infections in European adults

- By providing evidence-based guidance on key technical and strategic issues
- By monitoring the progress of adult immunization programs at European, country, and regional levels

Methods

- The AIB operates by organizing two live meetings per year:
 - ✓ Technical meeting → to discuss specific topics on adult immunization among advisors of the board together with subject-matter experts (example of potential topics: tailored vaccine services and communication for adults, electronic vaccine registries, adult immunization schedules, vaccine equity, coadministration etc.)
 - ✓ Country meeting → to <u>discuss country/region-specific aspects</u> of a dult immunization together with <u>local experts</u>
- The AIB has a permanent executive secretariat jointly based at the University of Antwerp and University of Florence.



Results

Kick-off meeting (Nov 2022):

 The AIB secretariat organized a preliminary "Proto-board" meeting with potential advisors 8 November 2022 in Antwerp to establish the basic structure and functions of the Board and to plan the agendas of future meetings. The meeting was a unique gathering of international experts on adult vaccination in Europe

Technical meeting (April 2023)

 Topic: Assessing the health <u>burden of vaccine-preventable</u> <u>infections</u> in European adults: challenges and opportunities

Country meeting (Dec 2023)

 Topic: Adult Immunization in <u>Italy</u>: successes, lessons learned and the way forward

Technical meeting (April 2024)

Topic: Strategies for introducing and implementing vaccines for adults into National Immunization Programs in Europe: Exemplary Approaches and Key Insights

A country meeting and a technical meeting are scheduled in December 2024 and May 2025

All meeting presentations and reports are / will be available on our website: https://www.adultimmunizationboard.org/meetings

Conclusion

AlB is a platform that **brings together different key European stakeholders** on adult immunization in order to effectively contribute towards the implementation and optimization of adult immunization in Europe.

Contact info

