

# Adult Immunization Board - Country meeting:

*Adult Immunization in Finland:  
successes, lessons learned and the way forward*

**Session 1: Opening, Introduction and Objectives**



*A collaboration of*



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University  
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# Introduction of the Adult Immunization Board

Pierre Van Damme (University of Antwerp)



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# Adult Immunization Board: From idea to concept

Growing number and share of older people

Concerning low adult vaccination coverage

Barriers experienced during implementation of adult (COVID-19) vaccination

Increasing number of questions about adult immunization / life course immunization

...

*Need for independent and multidisciplinary reflection on adult immunization in Europe*



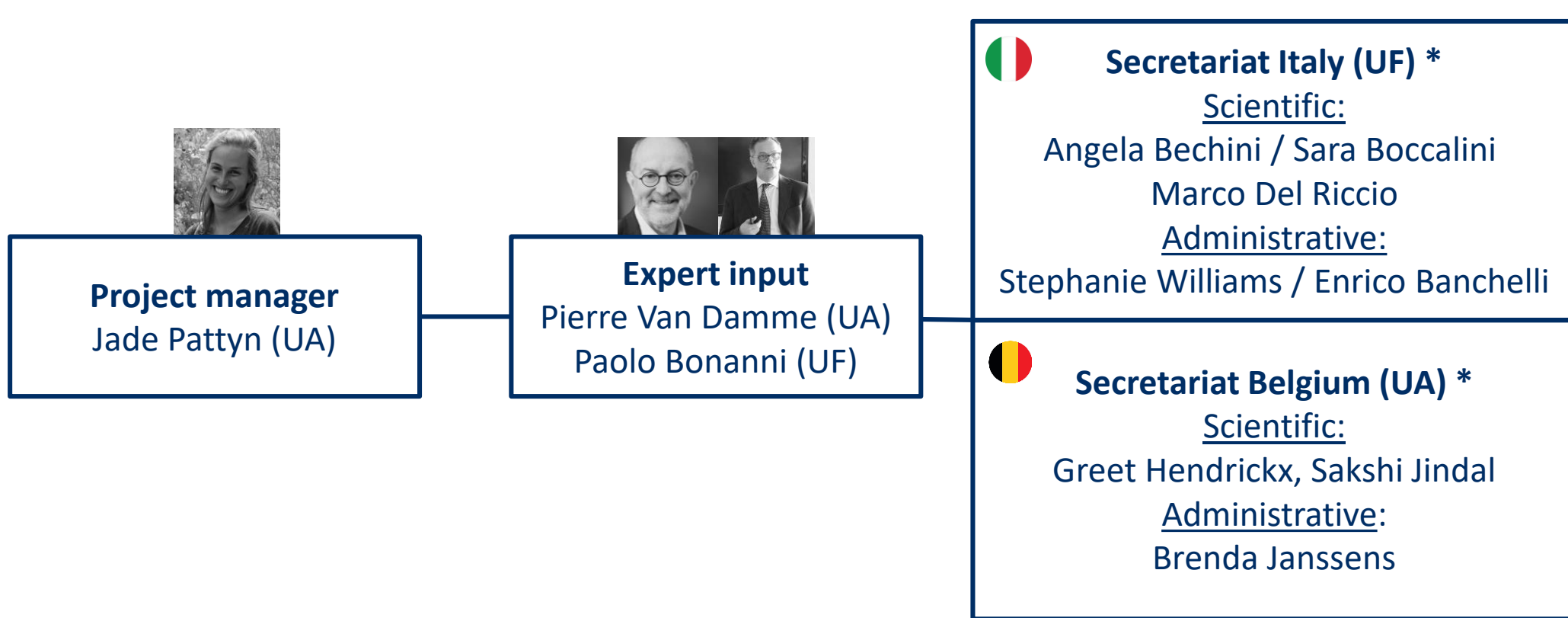
## **Adult Immunization Board**

*Based on good experience with existing multidisciplinary advisory groups*



# The AIB has a permanent executive secretariat

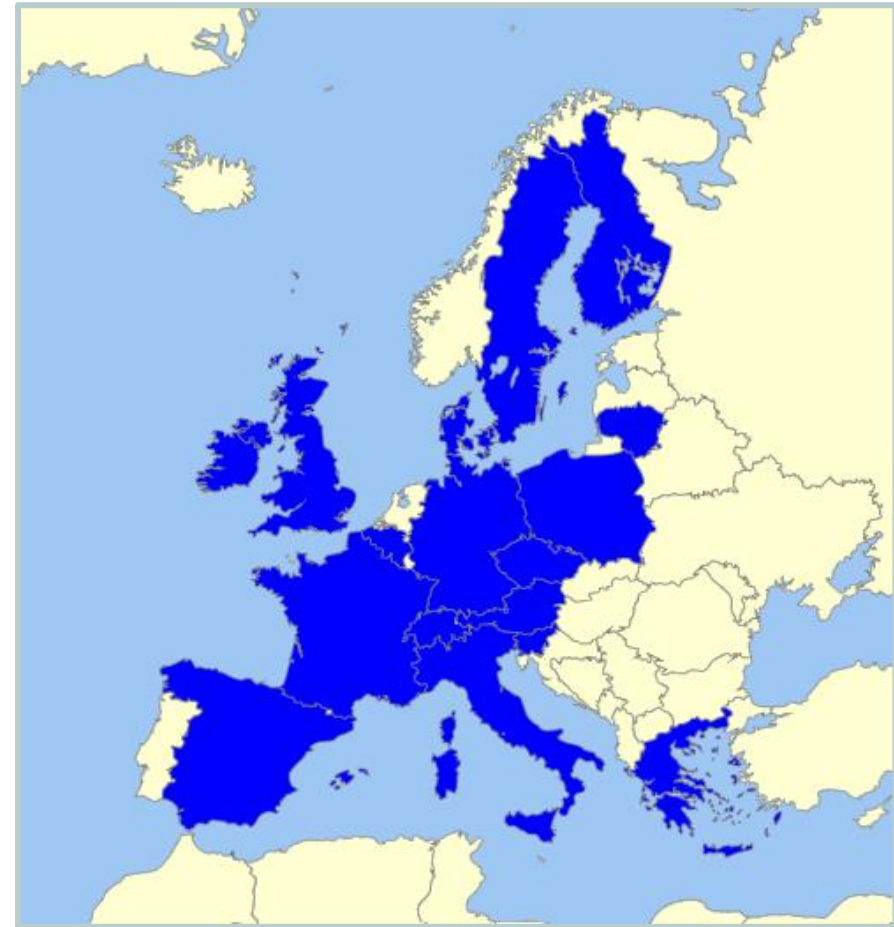
Collaboration between university of Antwerp (UA) and university of Florence (UF)



# Adult Immunization Board - Advisors

## Board members → Advisors

- Experts in different fields of adult immunization/representing different regions
  - *Expertise: Vaccinology, Infectious diseases, Immunology, Epidemiology, Vaccine technologies, Primary health care, Public health, Travel medicine, Vaccine Confidence Communication, Health economics, Aging*
  - *Characteristic: Engaged/ enthusiastic*
- Advisors act in their personal capacity
  - Provides open and honest discussions
- Advisors at AIB meetings are **not paid**



# AIB advisors

- Independent, international, multidisciplinary group of +/- 20 advisors
- Provide scientific evidence-based reflection and guidance on strategic, technical and policy issues that will occur as we move forward in the implementation and optimization of adult immunization programs



Niyazi Cakmak  
(WHO EURO)



Daphne Holt  
(CLCI)



Mariano Votta  
(Active Citizenship  
Network)



Alojz Ihan  
(Slovenia)



Odile Launay  
(France)



Giovanni Gabutti  
(Italy)



Helena Maltezou  
(Greece)



Heini Salo  
(Finland)



Jacek Wysocki  
(Poland)



Antoni Torres  
(Spain)



Ligita Jancoriene  
(Lithuania)



Heidi Larson  
(Belgium / UK)



Per Ljungman  
(Sweden)



Robert Steffen  
(Switzerland)



Pierre Van Damme  
(Belgium)



Birgit Weinberger  
(Austria)



Sotirios Tsiodras  
(Greece)



Stefania Maggi  
(Italy)



Thomas Weinke  
(Germany)



Johan Flamaing  
(Belgium)



Roman Chlibek  
(Czech Republic)



Paolo Bonanni  
(Italy)



Javier Díez-Domingo  
(Spain)



# AIB - Mission and Objectives

- **AIB is established with the aim of contributing to the reduction of mortality and morbidity from vaccine-preventable infections and diseases in European adults.**
  - provide evidence-based guidance on fundamental technical and strategic issues
  - monitoring the progress of adult immunization programs at European and (sub)national levels.



# AIB – Way of working: 2 meeting per year

- **1) Technical meeting**
  - to discuss specific technical aspect on adult immunization with subject-matter experts
- **2) Country meeting**
  - to discuss country specific aspects of adult immunization together with local experts
  - create a platform where people of the country involved in adult immunization can discuss and start future initiatives
- **Meeting on invitation only to keep group small -> guarantee interaction/ discussion**
- **The focus audience are policymakers, researchers, public health experts, HCP**



# Meetings - Way of working



Meeting topics- countries  
Objectives – meeting outcome

Literature –web review



Draft agenda  
Potential speakers  
Potential participants



**Adult Immunization Board (AIB)**  
*Technical meeting:*

*Assessing the health burden of vaccine-preventable infections in European Adults: challenges and opportunities*

University of Antwerp  
(Belgium)

**DRAFT**

Please note that this is a preliminary draft of the AIB meeting objectives/ agenda

**Preliminary Meeting Objectives:**

- Provide an overview of current vaccine-preventable infections (VPIs) in the adult population (≥18y)
- Discuss the methodology and challenges in computing the health burden of adult VPIs (focus on Europe)
- Understand how the health burden estimates of adult VPIs shape national vaccination policies and practices and inform public health priorities
- Evaluate the current VPIs health burden evidence to provide a convincing case for strengthening adult vaccination in Europe

**Intended Impact:**

Accurate information about the health burden of VPIs in adults is needed for several reasons:

- To understand the need and justification for consolidating actual and propose new adult vaccination programmes
- To measure the impact of adult vaccination programs on individual and population health, health systems, economic and social factors
- To collate the rationale to improve prevention / vaccination strategies for adult diseases (e.g. update or revise immunization schedules, implement targeted delivery strategies, etc.)
- To support health policy recommendations and priorities

The purpose of the first AIB technical meeting is to identify and discuss the challenges and opportunities when assessing the health burden of VPIs in European adults.

**Target audience (± 60 participants):**

The Adult Immunization Board will bring together European vaccinologists, epidemiologists, opinion leaders, policymakers, public health and health care professionals of different specialties, patient groups, professional medical and paramedical organizations. A diverse set of data will be presented and programs, strategies, successes and challenges will be discussed.

# (Upcoming) meetings / activities

Meeting	Date	Type	Topic	Location
Meeting 1	8 Nov 2022	Kick off AIB	“Proto-board” meeting to establish the basic structure & functions of the Board / plan the agendas of future meetings	Antwerp
Meeting 2	20-21 April 2023	Technical	Assessing the health burden of vaccine-preventable infections in European Adults: challenges and opportunities	Antwerp
Meeting 3	6-7 Dec 2023	Country	Adult immunization in Italy: lessons learned and the way forward	Florence
Meeting 4	18-19 April 2024	Technical	Strategies for introducing and implementing vaccines for adults into National Immunization Programs in Europe	Prague
<b>Meeting 5</b>	<b>4-5 Dec 2024</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Adult immunization in Finland : lessons learned and the way forward</b>	<b>Helsinki</b>
Meeting 6	H1 2025	Technical	Topic (TBD)	TBD
...				

# Technical meeting (20-21 April 2023, Antwerp)

## Assessing the health burden of vaccine-preventable infections in European Adults

### Meeting Objectives

- To provide an overview of current vaccine-preventable infections (VPIs) in the adult population ( $\geq 18$  years of age)
- To discuss the methodology and challenges in calculating the health burden (HB) of adult VPIs (focus on Europe)
- To understand how HB estimates of adult VPIs shape national vaccination policies & practices & inform public health priorities
- To evaluate current VPIs HB evidence to provide a convincing case for strengthening adult vaccination in Europe





# Technical meeting (20-21 April 2023, Antwerp)

- *The purpose of the first AIB technical meeting is to identify and discuss the challenges and opportunities when assessing the health burden of VPIs in European adults.*
- *All meeting presentations are available on our website:*

<https://www.adultimmunizationboard.org/meetings/technical-meeting-april-2023/>



## MEETING REPORT

### Assessing the health burden of vaccine-preventable infections in European adults: challenges and opportunities translated into action

Jade Pattyn<sup>1</sup>, Paolo Bonanni<sup>2</sup>, on behalf of the Adult Immunization Board working group<sup>3</sup>

1. Centre for the Evaluation of Vaccination, Vaccine and Infectious Disease Institute, University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium
2. Department of Health Sciences, University of Florence, Florence, Italy
3. Members of the Adult Immunization Board working group are listed under Acknowledgements

Correspondence: Jade Pattyn (jade.pattyn@uantwerpen.be)

#### Citation style for this article:

Pattyn Jade, Bonanni Paolo, on behalf of the Adult Immunization Board working group. Assessing the health burden of vaccine-preventable infections in European adults: challenges and opportunities translated into action. Euro Surveill. 2023;28(48):pii=2300791. <https://doi.org/10.2807/1560-7917.ES.2023.28.48.2300791>

Article submitted on 15 Nov 2023 / accepted on 28 Nov 2023 / published on 30 Nov 2023

# Country meeting (6-7 December 2023, Florence)

## Adult immunization in Italy: lessons learned and the way forward

### Intended impact / target population:

- To discuss **country specific aspects of adult immunization** together with local experts.
- The aim of these meetings is to **establish a collaborative network of national experts of different fields, creating a platform for the exchange of knowledge and best practices in adult immunization.**



Public Health & Policy

### Overview of adult immunization in Italy: Successes, lessons learned and the way forward

Angela Bechini, Sara Boccalini, Marco Del Riccio, Jade Pattyn, Greet Hendrickx, Chloé Wyndham-Thomas, Giovanni Gabutti, Stefania Maggi, Walter Ricciardi, Caterina Rizzo, Claudio Costantino, Luigi Vezzosi, Andrea Guida, Chiara Morittu, Pierre Van Damme & Paolo Bonanni: ...show less

Article: 2411821 | Received 22 Jul 2024, Accepted 30 Sep 2024, Published online: 21 Oct 2024

Cite this article <https://doi.org/10.1080/21645515.2024.2411821>

Check for updates

# AIB technical meeting (18-19 April 2024, Prague)

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

### Intended impact and target population:

- In light of the increasing implementation of adult vaccines within lifelong vaccination initiatives across several EU countries, the AIB aims to convene to **explore the latest strategies and valuable insights regarding the implementation of adult vaccines into National Immunization Programs.**
- Through this meeting, the AIB seeks to gather **diverse perspectives from various contexts, adult vaccines, and disciplines.**



*All presentations, agenda and background document are on the AIB website  
Publication in progress*

# Communication strategy / AIB output

- All meeting materials (slides + background document + conclusions) are published on the website
  - <https://www.adultimmunizationboard.org/>
- Summary meeting reports will be published in peer-reviewed journals
- LinkedIn page to report latest news
- Output will be presented at different networking activities (*ECCMID, ERS, Vaccine (journal) congress, European Public Health Conference, ESCAIDE/ECDC, ...*)

The image shows two screenshots of the Adult Immunization Board (AIB) website and its LinkedIn profile. The top screenshot is the website's homepage, featuring a dark blue header with the title "Adult Immunization Board" and the subtitle "By the University of Antwerp and University of Florence". Below the header, there is a section titled "Our mission:" followed by a paragraph of text and a photograph of a meeting. The bottom screenshot is the LinkedIn profile page for the "Adult Immunization Board - AIB", showing the company logo, name, and a brief description: "A platform to provide multidisciplinary guidelines for the implementation and optimization of adult immunization".



# Other activities

- The AIB's first plan is to investigate the possibility to publish on the AIB website **an adult vaccine tracker and landscape overview of all available adult vaccine products** used in Europe by disease since no such overview currently exists at the European level, neither by the ECDC nor by the EMA.


1 **Vaccines for adults tracker and landscape: An overview of**  
2 **the types of vaccines for adults authorized, recommended**  
3 **and used in the European Union.**

4  
5 **Authors:** Jade Pattyn<sup>1</sup>, Odile Launay<sup>2</sup>, Robert Steffen<sup>3</sup>, Birgit Weinberger<sup>4</sup>, Giovanni Gabutti<sup>5</sup>, Ihan  
6 Alojz<sup>6</sup>, Thomas Weinke<sup>7</sup>, Ligita Jancoriene<sup>8</sup>, Paolo Bonanni<sup>9</sup>, Pierre Van Damme<sup>1</sup>  
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- At the same time, the AIB is also exploring the idea of publishing a **European textbook** on adult vaccines and immunizations, **similar to this textbook focused on pediatric vaccines and immunizations**



# Unrestricted Grant – Vaccines Europe

- The executive secretariat of the Adult Immunization Board benefits from **being seated at the University of Antwerp and the University of Florence**, where it has the **infrastructure and administrative services** of the universities at its disposal.
- The AIB is **supported for its activities and meetings** by an **unrestricted grant from**  Vaccines Europe. All meeting funds are collected by the AIB secretariat. **Meeting topics and editorial control of the output and website rests entirely with the executive secretariat** of the Adult Immunization Board according to all ethical rules of both Universities.
- For the Board and its advisors, **strict operational and scientific independence** is essential. Adult Immunization Board advisors and invited experts get only **travel and subsistence reimbursed** according to the Universities Rules, **no honorary or other forms of remuneration are paid**.

# Introduction of meeting participants

Prof. Pierre Van Damme



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FIRENZE  
**DSS**  
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University  
of Antwerp

# Tour de table: Introduction of the (virtual or physical) participants

- Please note that we have participants / speakers online – **hybrid meeting**
- **Physical Participants**
  - Please use the mic to ask questions and/or give comments.  
It will help the online participants to follow the questions and discussion in the meeting room
- **Online participants**
  - Please switch on your video while introducing yourself and every time you speak
  - Keep yourself on mute when not speaking
  - **Video recordings of the presentations are for internal use only.  
No recordings will be put online.**