

An Australian Government Initiative

## VaxiMums Project – December 2024

Name and details of project using Shared Data for a secondary purpose	VaxiMums project: Pregnancy loss less than 24 weeks ( <24 weeks) gestation and maternal vaccination
Alignment to Item 7 of the Schedule of Particulars	This study will use Primary Sense (PS) data for a research project conducted in collaboration with University of Queensland (UQ). It aligns with the primary purpose for using PS data to assist in the development of community health promotion and prevention activities, and population health planning.
	Data shared with UQ will be completely de-identified and will not allow for re-identification of patients or GPs. All analyses will be made at the regional level, and not at the level of individual general practices.
	This is an expanding multi-PHN project. Gold Coast PHN have completed data collection as part of Phase One. Brisbane North PHN are amongst a group of Queensland PHNs subsequently replicating this.
Project/ research rationale	Pregnant women and infants experience higher morbidity and mortality from respiratory infections compared to other groups. This risk is three to 12 times higher in First Nations populations than for non-Indigenous populations. Vaccinating in pregnancy (maternal vaccination) against infectious diseases was introduced to reduce this morbidity and mortality.
	In Australia, inactivated influenza vaccination (IIV) has been routinely recommended in pregnancy for decades to provide protection against influenza infections in pregnancy and early infancy. Since 2021 COVID-19 booster vaccines have been recommended in pregnancy to provide protection in pregnancy. Even though the vaccines are free, their uptake remains sub-optimal, with the safety of vaccines in pregnancy cited as a major concern by prospective parents. Safety data are encouraging for IIV and COVID-19 vaccines given after 24 weeks gestation, but there are no Australian studies examining pregnancy loss less than 24 weeks gestation (<24w) following maternal vaccination and WHO strongly advocate for these local population safety data.



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	High performing maternal vaccination programs need to be acceptable to consumers, health care professionals and vaccine providers by demonstrating a robust safety and effectiveness profile.
Project benefits to patients and/ or general practice staff	These results will contribute to the body of international safety evidence to help support broader acceptance and uptake of maternal vaccination.
What is involved for GPs?	The messaging of maternal vaccine safety and effectiveness data back into the community is currently lacking. Vaccine prompts and reminders along with provision of safety and effectiveness data will increase vaccine acceptance and uptake.
What is involved for patients?	This is a data analysis only project with no active prospective patient recruitment.
Approved by	This study has been endorsed by the National Primary Sense Clinical Advisory Group and received Ethics approval by Queensland Health (HREC/2023/MNHA/96960) and Bond University HREC (JS00701).
Expected Project timeframe	November 2024 – December 2027.
Progress	Data collection to occur in December 2024.
Date to opt out by	16 December 2024.