Provincial / Territorial Immunization Committees

• Overview of Immunization Committees

• Overview of Informed Management and Decision-Making

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Public Health Branch
Manitoba Health
Government Organization for Immunization

**FEDERAL**

Public Health Agency of Canada

Immunization Respiratory and Infectious Diseases Division

National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) (science)

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Government Organization for Immunization

**FEDERAL / PROVINCIAL / TERRITORIAL**

Public Health Council

Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health (CCMOH)

Communicable Disease Control Expert Group (CDCEG)

Canadian Immunization Committee (CIC) (policy and programs)
How Do Provincial Immunization Committees Work?

- Description
  - Commonalities
  - Diversities
- Operating processes in government
  - “External” (Advisory Committees)
  - “Internal “ (Decision making)
- Trends
- Opportunities
Provincial / Territorial Immunization Committees - Commonalities

- Senior health department lead
- Reports at high level in department
- Multiple stakeholders with diverse roles
- Local expert stakeholders involved
- Terms of references describe structure / process
- Often “champion” for immunization within public health

Provincial / Territorial Immunization Committees - Diversities

- Variable level of activity
- Variable expertise and depth
- Variable activity
- Smaller provinces have more flexibility and less formal process
- Few committees have research expertise
Process of Immunization Program Review

A) Mainly External to Government (ie: Mainly Advisory)
   Approved Vaccine (BGTD)
   \[ \downarrow \]
   National Scientific and Expert Recommendations (NACI)
   \[ \downarrow \]
   Program Planning Framework + Gathering Evidence (CIC and F/P/T)
   \[ \downarrow \]
   - Disease burden
   - Immunogenicity
   - Safety
   - Cost
   \[ \downarrow \]
   Consultation by Governments
   - Advisory Committee
   - Field staff
   - Program feasibility

B) Mainly Internal to Government (ie: Mostly Decision-Making)
   Public Health Prioritization of Programs
   \[ \downarrow \]
   Annual Budget Proposal - Department of Health Priorities
   \[ \downarrow \]
   Estimates
   \[ \downarrow \]
   Cabinet <-> Treasury Board
   \[ \downarrow \]
   Budget
   \[ \downarrow \]
   Legislative Review (public debate)
### Trends In Immunization Program Review by Governments

- Willingness to collaborate
- Aim to avoid duplication
- Necessity to leverage expertise
- Recognized need for expert science in program review
  - Burden of disease analysis
  - Cost / benefit analysis
  - Safety monitoring
  - Immunology
  - Modelling
  - Public opinion assessment
  - Stakeholder opinion
  - Epidemiology analysis

### Societal Questions on Immunization Programs, "Internal" to Government

- What are other governments doing?
- Does the public support this program?
- If no, who does not, and why not?
- Is this program supporting a priority issue or population for this government?
- Will this program assist or hinder another health issue, eg: Emergency Room crowding?
- Has there been any public promise for this program?
- How severe is the threat addressed by this program?
Economic Questions on Immunization Programs, “Internal” to Government

- Is this program clear, worthwhile and feasible – so that it deserves investment?
- What are the expected outcomes and visible benefits (cases, severe sequelae or deaths averted)?
- What is the program cost?
- Can we afford
  - to do it
  - not do it?
- Will there be any beneficial economic impact?
- Will P/T funding be supported by Federal funding?

Key Influencers of New Programs

- Corporations
- Lobbyists
- Media
- Non-Government Organizations
- Professional Societies
- Patient Advocacy Groups
- Individual patients / families
- Elected officials
Summary – Provincial / Territorial Immunization Committees

• Complex processes are involved.

• Multiple improvements are possible.

• Common elements can be systematized.

• External resources can assist the process.

• Societal questions must be addressed as part of immunization program review.