

Meeting	Mid-Term Conference
Date	14-16 June 2017
Title	“CATCH UP ADULTS” IMMUNISE AUSTRALIA
Resolution	National Council of Women Australia calls on the Federal Government to introduce a “Catch Up” promotional vaccination program, to be part of the Immunise Australia Program, to encourage adults over 20 to become immunised.
Rationale	<p>This resolution is not calling for Government to provide free immunisation to adults over twenty other than to those it already provides. The resolution is calling for a promotional program to encourage adults to become immunised.</p> <p>A recent Medical Journal of Australia report indicated that there are 4.1 million unvaccinated Australians, 92 per cent of those (3.8 million) are adults. Quite a staggering figure!</p> <p>Immunisation not only protects against a range of harmful diseases, it offers vital benefits for the long-term health of the community. Immunisation helps reduce the chance of an adult contracting these vaccine preventable diseases many of which spread quickly and easily through the air. An immunised adult also helps reduce the presence of infectious symptoms in the wider population- contributing to a “community immunity” that overtime dramatically reduces the chances of a disease outbreak.</p> <p>In recent years there has been focus by Government to improve the rate of vaccinations among children and infants which is vitally important.</p> <p>However with such a staggering figure of 3.8 million adults unvaccinated it is now time for Government to include, as part of the Immunise Australia Program, a promotional program to encourage adults to become fully vaccinated.</p>