

Table 4. Examples of issues addressed and recommendations made at recent meetings of the Thai ACIP

Meeting date	Issue to be considered	Recommendation made by the ACIP	Status of implementation (as of January 2010)
17 July 2009	Immunization policy for health care workers	Establish expert group to draft policy for consideration by the ACIP	The policy has been drafted and is expected to be included in the next ACIP meeting for consideration.
	What vaccines to add to the list required for foreign-born children living in Thailand (besides BCG, DTP, OPV and measles)	Add hepatitis B and JE to the list of required vaccines for foreign-born children	The recommendation will be implemented in Fiscal Year 2010.
18 September 2009	Prioritizing groups to receive the 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine, once available	Establish small expert group to draft proposal to identify priority groups for the vaccine for consideration by the ACIP (based on data on vaccine characteristics and performance, estimated incidence and mortality rates of different risk groups, and estimated population size of each group)	The expert group's proposals were accepted and vaccination for the recommended groups started in January, 2010.
17 July 2008	Hib vaccine introduction	Not to introduce Hib vaccine (mainly because members doubted the estimate of the burden of Hib pneumonia)	Hib vaccines are available in private facilities and some governmental facilities and vaccinees have to pay for them.
	Possible change in target ages for measles vaccination	Keep the age for the first measles dose at 9-12 months and decrease the age for the second dose (using MMR)	The revised schedule to include the second dose of MMR has been included in the immunization reference

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		from 7 years to 4 years	manual and official letters sent to health facilities requesting them to follow the recommendation.
	Whether to consider the use of the live attenuated SA 14-14-2 JE vaccine in place of mouse-brain derived vaccine used in the EPI	Not to use the live SA 14-14-2 JE vaccine unless the mouse-brain vaccine is not available.	SA 14-14-2 has been available in most of private facilities in big cities and some governmental facilities and vaccinees have to pay for them.
27 December 2007	What specific MMR vaccine to use in the EPI for 6-12 month olds (e.g., Jeryl Lynn strain of mumps)	Stay with current MMR vaccine due to availability problems with other types and revisit the schedule and target ages for measles and MMR immunization	The EPI plans to start buying the MMR Jeryl Lynn strain in 2010.
	Reconsideration of the schedule for hepatitis B immunization in infants of hepatitis B carrier mothers	Change schedule for infants from 2 months of age to 1 month for the second hepatitis B dose (first dose at birth remains the same)	The recommendation was distributed to all health care facilities nation-wide, and has been implemented.
	Selection of public education messages about HPV immunization	Use already available educational materials developed by medical associations	The educational material has been put on the EPI website.
	What high-risk groups should receive seasonal flu vaccine besides health workers	Seasonal flu vaccine should be given to people with chronic illnesses and funded by the NHSO.	People with chronic illness have been receiving seasonal flu vaccine since 2008.