

Table 1. Vaccine Appendix of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (Extracted from page 221 of

[http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/AECB791C29482920CA25724400188EDB/\\$File/PBAC4.3.2\(01DEC08\).pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/AECB791C29482920CA25724400188EDB/$File/PBAC4.3.2(01DEC08).pdf)

Several factors affect whether vaccines will be listed on the PBS or be funded under the NIP. A vaccine should generally be proposed for funding under the NIP where there is expected to be an additional health benefit to the community beyond the individuals vaccinated, which would be improved by maximising coverage rates of the proposed vaccine in the identified individuals. More specific considerations favouring a submission for NIP funding include the following:

- *The target for the proposed vaccine is a broader population in which there is either no need to assess risk factors for the disease in each individual, or the assessment of risk factors at an individual level is straightforward (eg age, sex, ethnicity, geography).*
- *There is a reason to maximise population coverage of the proposed vaccine because the proposed vaccine reduces one or more of:*
 - *the proportion of susceptible individuals*
 - *carriage of the pathogen(s) affected by the vaccine*
 - *transmission of the infection (including nosocomial infections or reducing the rate or extent of spread of infections in other institutional settings, such as child care centres, schools or nursing homes).*
- *Integral to these specific considerations are as follows:*
 - *The proposed vaccine protects against a new infection or reactivation of an existing infection.*
 - *The efficacy of the proposed vaccine is sufficient to achieve one or more of the reductions identified in the second bullet point, above (eg reductions in the proportion of susceptible individuals, carriage of the pathogen affected by the vaccine, or transmission of the infection).*
 - *The disease is sufficiently severe or prevalent in an unimmunised population to justify maximising the use of the proposed vaccine in order to achieve its full community health benefit.*
 - *The proposed vaccine needs only to be delivered as a single dose or a few doses.*

An additional factor that might be considered in supporting a request for funding under the NIP is the existence of claimed advantages of increasing herd immunity, particularly where those advantages are supported by clinical evidence (see additional requests below in relation to Part II, Subsection D.3 for the presentation of such advantages and evidence).

PBS listing might be favoured when the proposed vaccine is ‘discretionary’ for the majority of the population (eg to vaccinate an individual against a disease that is not sufficiently prevalent in Australia to justify maximising the use of the proposed vaccine), or the assessment of risk factors is less straightforward (eg an assessment of immune system status is required).