

Meeting of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization

9-12 March 2026

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

All 15 SAGE members participating in the meeting updated their declaration of interest ahead of the meeting. 11 SAGE members reported relevant interests. All SAGE members can participate in the **discussion** at all sessions. However, Punnee Pitisuttithum, Ghassan Dbaibo and Glenda Gray recused themselves from the **recommendation-making** on COVID-19 session. It was assessed that the remaining SAGE members could participate fully in the meeting.

All the reported relevant interests are summarized below:

SAGE Members

Rebecca Grais

- Serves as a Scientific Advisory Committee member of the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI). This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served as a member until December 2025 at Institut Pasteur Dakar, Manufacturing in Africa for Disease Immunization and Building Autonomy (MADIBA) Project Steering Committee. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2023 as a Data and Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) member on Serum Institute of India for yellow fever vaccine. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until December 2022 as sponsor of fractional dose of Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV), phase IV trial, funded by European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP). This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Serves as a member of the advisory board of MMGH Consulting. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2023 as a DSMB member on Scandinavian Bio Pharma/EDCTP. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.

- Served as sponsor of fractional dose yellow fever, phase IV until 2022, funded by Wellcome trust, and the Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) foundation. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Served until November 2022 as site investigator for effectiveness of Ebola vaccine, Phase II/III, funded by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI). This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served in 2023 on the International Vaccine Institute (IVI) Expert Panel on Hepatitis E vaccine in pregnant women. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.

Gabriel Leung

- Served on the advisory panel on COVID-19 Vaccines until 2024, Government of Hong Kong SAR. This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves on the Wellcome Trust's Board of Governors. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.

Saad Omer

- Serves as a member for Food and Drug Administration Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2024 as a member on the Board of Trustees of the Sabin Vaccine Institute. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as a member on the Gavi Board. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2023 as a member on the Gavi Programme and Policy Committee. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2023 on the Lancet Commission on Vaccines in the USA. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.

- Served until 2023 on WHO Expert Steering Committee on Safety Surveillance in Pregnancy in low- and middle-income countries. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2024 on WHO Technical Advisory Group on Behavioral Insights and Sciences for Health. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2022 as member of the Rockefeller Foundation Global Immunization Initiative (GVI) Advisory Council.
- Served until 2022 as a consultant for Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for pooled analysis for three maternal influenza vaccines. This interest was perceived as personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Served until 2023 as principal investigator in the research project funded by Facebook, on evaluating vaccine acceptance messages using social media, this interest was perceived as personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Served as faculty in the Coursera course digital media for health outcome, funded by META. The funding ended in 2024. this interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*
- Served until 2022 as a member in Rockefeller's global immunization initiative advisory council to advise them on vaccine acceptance initiatives. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Served until 2022 as a faculty on Medscape Steering Committee for the COVID-19 Vaccination Education Center. This interest was perceived as personal, specific and financially significant*.
- He has a pending patent for a machine and technology for a point of care polypill machine to deliver multiple drugs in a single capsule. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as a member of the Rostropovich Vishnevskaya Foundation (RVF) board (pending institutional approval). This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant or significant*.
- Serves as a member of the Vaccine Integrity Project advisory board (pending institutional approval). This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.

Cristiana Toscano

- Served on the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Technical Advisory Group until 2024. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as a member in Brazilian National Immunization Technical Advisory Group (NITAG). This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as a member of the advisory group of experts for Fiocruz on COVID-19 vaccine development. This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific and financially insignificant*.
- Her institution receives funding from PAHO to provide technical support to evaluate COVID-19 vaccine impact and effectiveness in Latin American Countries. This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific and financially significant*.
- Her institution received funding until 2023 from Results for Development (R4D) to support to support for implementing and evaluating a capacity building program for immunization team in Angola. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Her institution receives funding from Results for Development (R4D) to support to support for implementing and evaluating a capacity building program for immunization team in São Tomé e Príncipe. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Her institution received research project to evaluate cost of zoster in Brazil and resource utilization in the healthcare system from GSK until 2024. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Her institution received funding from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to provide technical support to research Project on PCV Impact in Latin America until 2024. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Her institution received research support from CNPq – the Brazilian National Council for Technological Research until 2024 for COVID epidemiology and modelling research to support decision making during the pandemic. This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific and financially significant*.
- Her institution received funding from Gavi and R4 for capacity building activities to immunization teams in lusophone countries in Africa transitioning from Gavi support, and linked collaborative learning network on immunization

supported by Gavi, until 2024. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.

Carla Vizzotti

- Serves as a member of Global Advisory Group of Experts (GAGE) of the International Vaccine Institute (IVI) This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Serves as member of the World Health Summit Council. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as an advisor on a collaborative study on ITrials of RSV vaccine effectiveness funded by Pfizer. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Serves as an advisor on maternal health immunization of Argentina, funded by Sanofi Pasteur. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Served as a lead until 2024 on the Health Policy and Equity Innovation Hub at the National University of San Martín, through which the advisory support to Lab Cassará regarding the ARVAC vaccine was conducted. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Received a grant from Pfizer on strengthening of vaccination in pregnant women and adults. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Participated at the HPV Summit as a speaker in 2024, funded by MSD. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Participated in an RSV vaccination campaign in 2025, funded by MSD, Pfizer, GSK, Takeda, Sequirus and Sanofi, This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Serves as the Secretary on the Board of Directors of the Argentine Society of Vaccinology and Epidemiology, funded by six laboratories and Pfizer. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.

Punnee Pitisuttithum

- Serves as a committee member on the Meta DSMB, CEPI. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as a committee member on the National Advisory Committee on Immunization, National Vaccine Institute, Thailand. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as a member on Safety monitoring committee for the US military HIV research programme (MHRP). This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as principal investigator for Merck funded A phase 3, International, Multi-center, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo- controlled Clinical Trial to Study the Efficacy, Immunogenicity, and Safety of the 9vHPV Vaccine, a Multivalent L1 Virus-like Particle Vaccine, in the prevention of oral persistent with HPV Types 16, 18, 31, 33, 45, 52 or 5E in adult males, 20 to 45 years of age. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Serves as project chair for the government-funded (national research council) “Effectiveness of single dose or two doses of HPV vaccine among adolescents and reproductive women: A test-negative control study”. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as project chair for the government-funded (national research council) Evaluation of Interferon- gamma release assays symptom screening and chest radiograph for Detection of Subclinical Tuberculosis of End-stage Kidney Disease and Kidney Transplant Recipients in Thailand. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Serves as an investigator for A Phase 3, randomized, modified double-blind, active-controlled, parallel group study to investigate the safety and immunogenicity of catchup vaccination regimens of a 21-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine in healthy infants, toddlers, children, and adolescent, funded by national research council (government fund). This interest was perceived as non- personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Serves as an investigator A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Safety, Immunogenicity, and Efficacy of V181 Dengue Vaccine in Healthy Participants 2 to 17 Years of Age, funded by MSD (Thailand) Ltd. A subsidiary of Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.

- Served until 2024 as principal investigator for IVI funded trial “Phase II/III To Evaluate Safety And Immunogenicity of 2 Dose-Regimen Of BBV87 Chikungunya Vaccine In Healthy Subjects Aged 12 to 65 years”. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Served until 2025, as project chair/CRS leader for the DAIIDS funded phase I clinical trial to evaluate the safety and immunogenicity of CH505M5 N197D mRNA- gp160 followed by CH505 TF mRNA-gp160 in adults in overall good health without HIV. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*
- Served until 2025 as project chair/CRS leader for HVTN FUNDED A Phase 2a/2b Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Study Evaluating Safety, Immunogenicity, and Therapeutic Efficacy of ID93 + GLA-SE Vaccination in Participants with Rifampicin-Susceptible Pulmonary TB. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*
- Served until 2023 as principal investigator for the GPO-funded phase III to “Evaluate the Immunogenicity and Safety of Tri Fluvac influenza vaccine”. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Served until 2023 as principal investigator for the National Science and Technology Development Agency-funded phase II/III combined Diphtheria-Tetanus-recombinant acellular pertussis (DTaP) vaccine to a licensed DTaP based vaccine. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Served until 2023 as principal investigator coordinator for the government funded study of the immunogenicity and safety of the 3rd dose of the ChAdOx-nCoV19 or BNT162b2 vaccine against COVID-19. This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2023 as principal investigator for the Janssen funded phase I/II study of the immunogenicity and safety of the Ad26.CoV2.S heterologous vaccine against COVID-19. This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific and financially significant*.
- Served until 2023 as principal investigator for the GPO funded phase I/II study of the NDV-HXP-S COVID-19 vaccine until 2023. This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific and financially significant*.

Anthony Scott

- Served until 2024 as the DSMB member at Iliad Biotechnologies, Phase 2b trial of Intranasal Pertussis vaccine BPZE1. This interest was assessed as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2024 as a member at WHO Guideline Development Group for management of childhood pneumonia and diarrhoea. This interest was assessed as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2023 on the United Kingdom (UK) Department of Health and Social Care Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, main committee. This interest was assessed as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves on the United Kingdom (UK) Department of Health and Social Care Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, sub committee in pneumococcal vaccines. This interest was assessed as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Received travel grant for organising ISPPD Toronto in 2022, funded by KENES on behalf of the conference organising committee. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Received travel grant to give a presentation as a speaker at ISPPD Cape Town in 2024, funded by KENES on behalf of the conference organising committee. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Received travel grant to give a presentation as a speaker at the Meningitis Research Foundation meeting in London in 2025, funded by Meningitis Research Foundation. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served on the United Kingdom (UK) commission on human medicine, expert working group on COVID-19 vaccine safety until 2022. This interest was assessed as non-personal, specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2025 as principal investigator for the BMGF-funded study on fractional doses of PCV in infants in Kenya. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Served until 2022 as co-investigator for the UK Foreign Commonwealth and development office funded study on COVID-19 vaccine evaluation in Kenya . This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific and financially significant*.

- Serves as co-investigator for the European Union-funded study on Vacc-iNTS, a Phase I/II trial of an NTS vaccine in Kenyan adults. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Served until 2022 as principal investigator for the Gavi funded study on the Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Impact Study (PCVIS), a-post-licensure study of PCV10 impact in Kenya. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*
- Serves as principal investigator for a non-trial vaccine research grant in the health protection research unit in immunization, funded by the national institute of health research, UK. The financial beneficiary is the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*
- His institution receives research support for the following studies. These interests were perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*
 - Research grant on cause of child death in Ethiopia (CHAMPS) from Task Force for Global Health, Atlanta.
 - Research grant on surveillance of Meningococcus in Ethiopia from BMGF.
 - Research Fellowship on using pneumococcal carriage to inform PCV policy in Africa, from Wellcome Trust.

Ghassan Dbaibo

- Serves as a member of the advisory board of COVID-19 vaccines in pediatric-Pfizer. This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific, and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as a member of the Pneumococcal vaccine advisory board —pediatric MSD. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific, and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as principal investigator for meningococcal conjugate vaccine in elderly, funded by Sanofi. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*

Ruth Karron

- Serves as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board funded by MedImmune, future mAb development. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Served until 2025 as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board for mRNA RSV/HMPV vaccines in children funded by Moderna. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Served until 2025 as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board for Merck, clesrovimab. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Serves as principal Investigator for RSV vaccine trial, funded by NIH, US. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*
- Serves as Co-Investigator for RSV vaccine trial, funded by Sanofi. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*

Mark Jit

- Serves as a member of PDVAC at WHO. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Serves as a member of Lancet Commission for Strengthening the Use of Epidemiological Modelling of Emerging and Pandemic Infectious Diseases. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Serves as a member of WHO influenza burden of disease technical working group. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Serves as a member of Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) Impact Modelling External Advisory Group. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Serves as a member at Economic Guidelines Task Group (EGTG), National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), Canada. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Serves as a member at Vaccine Investment Strategy (VIS) Steering Committee of Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*
- Serves as a member at WHO Technical Advisory Group on Vaccines and Antimicrobial Resistance. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*

- He receives Grants from non-commercial (government and non-profit) funders on vaccine and infectious-disease related research. Funders: NIHR, RCUK, Gates Foundation, Gavi, Wellcome Trust, European Commission, InnoHK, TFGH, CDC. These interests were perceived as non-personal, specific and financially significant*

Glenda Gray

- Served on Scripps Consortium for HIV/AIDS Vaccine Development (CHAVD) until 2025. This interest was perceived as non personal, specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves on the scientific advisory board of CEPI, term until October 2026. This interest was perceived as non personal, specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves on the GARDP board. This interest was perceived as non personal, specific and financially insignificant*.
- Served until 2022 as protocol chair on HIV vaccine research (HVTN705). This interest was perceived as non personal, specific and financially significant*.
- Serves as a committee member at sahra board. This interest was perceived as non personal, non-specific and financially insignificant*.
- Serves as investigator for COVID-19 vaccines, funded by NIH/COVPN. This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific and financially significant*.
- Served until 2022 as co-chair on COVID-19 vaccine trial (ENSEMBLE). This interest was perceived as non-personal, specific and financially significant*.
- Serves as national co-investigator for COVID-19 vaccines study (VC 102), funded by the Vaccine Company (Vaxco), SAMRC. This interest was perceived as non personal, specific and financially significant*.
- Served until 2024 as national investigator for COVID-19 vaccines (Sisonke) , funded by NDOH, Elma foundation, BMG, and Dell foundation. This interest was perceived as non personal, specific and financially significant*.
- Serves as principal investigator for the brilliant consortium for HIV vaccine discovery research- USAID Coag(grant was terminated) and Gates Foundation picked up the first trial, B-011. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant*.
- Serve as national principal investigator for the BIOVAC Oral Cholera Vaccine trial, funded by Gates Foundation, Wellcome and ELMA philanthropy. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant

- Serves as a site investigator for the Mpox BioNTech study, funded by BioNtech. This interest was perceived as non-personal, non-specific and financially significant.

* According to WHO's Guidelines for Declaration of Interests (WHO expert), an interest is considered "personal" if it generates financial or non-financial gain to the expert, such as consulting income or a patent. "Specificity" states whether the declared interest is a subject matter of the meeting or work to be undertaken. An interest has "financial significance" if the honoraria, consultancy fee or other received funding, including those received by expert's organization, from any single vaccine manufacturer or other vaccine-related company exceeds 5,000 USD in a calendar year. Likewise, a shareholding in any one vaccine manufacturer or other vaccine-related company in excess of 1,000 USD would also constitute a "significant shareholding". As per the WHO assessment of conflicts of interests, "Institution" relates only to the expert's research/or work unit as a subdivision of the department. Funding going to the SAGE member's research unit needs to be declared.

The above-stated SAGE conflicts were made available for public notice and comment two weeks prior to the SAGE meeting to provide information on interests or biases relating to potential conflicts of SAGE members. No comments were received.