

Twitter Thread by The Megaphone Report



The Megaphone Report

[@prestonaphone](#)



The Megaphone Report for Wednesday, January 13.

Today's report is an Oxford University / AstraZeneca vaccine special. First - Australians deserve the most expensive of vaccines.



humphrey hollins
@HollinsMrhump



Leaked prices of vaccines. So an Australian life is worth about \$2.75. Thank you Mr Morrison.

This is the list of what the EU is paying:

- Oxford/AstraZeneca: €1.78 (£1.61).
- Johnson & Johnson: \$8.50 (£6.30).
- Sanofi/GSK: €7.56.
- Pfizer/BioNTech: €12.
- CureVac: €10.
- Moderna: \$18.

2:29 pm · 13/1/21 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

17 Retweets **22** Likes

The purchase of the vaccine is compared to the NBN rollout and corruption is suggested.



TwoEyeHead 👁️👁️
@TwoEyeHead



Pfizer and Moderna offer fibre solution
but LNP buy not fit for purpose copper
again from an old mate of John
Howard .

[#COVID19Aus](#) [#auspol2021](#)

1:58 pm · 13/1/21 · [Twitter for Android](#)

12 Retweets **1** Quote Tweet **26** Likes

Corruption was a running theme connected to the AstraZeneca vaccine purchase - especially in relation to D. Sharma.



Craig Hill @CraigHill01 · 7h



Is anybody surprised that we are getting the cheapest and least effective of the [#COVID19](#) vaccines available? [#auspol](#)

105

150

596



Ewart Dave



@davidbewart

Replying to [@CraigHill01](#)

sharman bought the wrong shares

11:10 am · 13/1/21 · [Twitter Web App](#)

4 Retweets **25** Likes

Brand shopping was another theme, with demands that Australians must have the best.




  **Queen Victoria**
@Vic_Rollison

...

I'll have the Pfizer vaccine thanks.



BBD   (Just here to share CO... · 17h

#BREAKING AstraZeneca vaccine 'not good enough to stop the coronavirus'

The Federal Government has ordered 53.8 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine, which has an efficacy rate of only 62%.

In comparison, the Pfizer vaccine has a rate of 95% and Moderna's 94%.

#covid19aus

[Show this thread](#)



natalie.brown



Doctors have called for a re-evaluation of Australia's COVID-19 vaccine strategy, saying that herd immunity cannot be achieved with the lower-efficacy Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine.

The vaccine, along with the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine, will be administered to millions of Australians in the coming months, in line with plans by the Morrison Government.

"I feel like Australia is short-changing itself by betting so heavily on the AstraZeneca vaccine," infectious diseases doctor and Monash University professor, Michelle Ananda-Rajah told [The Australian](#).

"I haven't had any clarity from the government as to what the end game here is. In my mind, the end game for Australia is we should be aiming to eliminate COVID-19.

Having shares in CSL (formerly the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, now a publicly listed company) is mentioned as being relevant.



Daniel Bleakley
@DanielBleakley



Dave Sharma has shares in CSL which is the company that produces the AZ vaccine in Australia.

aph.gov.au/-/media/03_Sen...



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS
Statement of Registrable Interests
46th Parliament

Returning Members are to declare interests as at the date of their election to the House in the 45th Parliament (11 April 2019) and all alterations since the date of dissolution.

Newly elected Members are to declare interests as at the date of their election (18 May 2019) and alterations since the date of election.

FAMILY NAME (please print)	Sharma
GIVEN NAMES	Dave
ELECTORAL DIVISION	Wentworth
STAGE	

1. List shareholdings in public and private companies (including holding the name of the company or companies)

	Name of company (including holding and subsidiary companies)
Self	Ardent Leisure Group (ALG)
	Appen Limited (APX)
	Bisalloy Steel (BIS)
	Bluescope Steel (BSL)
	Catapult Group (CAT)
	Coles Group (COL)
	Kelly Partners Group (KPG)
	Macquarie Group (MQG)
	Macquarie Group Capital Notes (MQGPC)
	Myer Holdings (MYR)
	National Australia Bank (NAB)
	Platinum Asset (PTM)
	Westpac Banking (WBC)
	Wesfarmers Limited (WES)
	Wisetech Global (WTC)
	Xero (XRO)
	Zip Co (Z1P)
	Afterpay Touch (APT)
	Argo Investments (ARG)
	Blue Sky (BLA)
	Cochlear (COH)
	CSL (CSL)
	McGrath Ltd (MGA)
	Parazero (PRZ)

8:23 am · 13/1/21 · Twitter Web App

151 Retweets 31 Quote Tweets 313 Likes

Mention of a chorus supporting the megaphone view.



Queen Victoria
@Vic_Rollison



So, have I got this right? I can't join the chorus of credentialed scientists and doctors who are concerned about Australia's vaccination choice without being called a Dan Stan and told I'm only noticing that experts are concerned because I'm a Labor voter? Sounds reasonable.

18:22 · 13/1/21 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

A suggestion not supported by a press release by peak bodies connected to the vaccine rollout.



Public Health Association
AUSTRALIA

Peak bodies support Australia's COVID-19 vaccine strategy

13 Jan 2021: The Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases (ASID), the Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control (ACIPC), and the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) have come out in support of the Commonwealth Government's COVID-19 vaccine strategy, stressing that concerns about the ability of any vaccines to create herd immunity were not justified at this stage of the process.

Immediate Past President of ASID Professor Josh Davis, ACIPC President Associate Professor Philip Russo, and PHAA President, Professor Tarun Weeramanthri said we need to wait until the Therapeutic Goods Administration has completed its review process of the available vaccines.

"There are no COVID-19 vaccines that have been registered by the TGA in Australia currently - because the available data are being carefully evaluated right now. However, the Pfizer and Astra Zeneca vaccines are likely to be the first candidates approved for use in Australia."

ASID Board Member and head of its Vaccination Special Interest Group Professor Katie Flanagan said that the pre-purchase agreements were made before any phase 3 efficacy data were released in order to ensure that Australia has access to a diverse portfolio of vaccines. This includes signing up to the COVAX facility which guarantees access to further candidates.

The Pfizer vaccine has since shown >90% efficacy in phase 3 trials while the Astra Zeneca vaccine is ~62% effective in the recommended 2-dose schedule. It must be remembered that these findings are preliminary and far exceed the bar for licensure of 50% set by the international regulators including both the FDA and the TGA. Furthermore, no vaccines to date have been shown to prevent transmission of virus and we don't yet know how long immunity will last with the different vaccine candidates.

Supplies of COVID-19 vaccines are limited due to the worldwide demand and the logistics of vaccinating the entire adult population is huge, therefore priority populations will be vaccinated first. It is important to get as many people vaccinated as possible in the shortest possible time and it would not be appropriate to withhold the Astra Zeneca vaccine while waiting for supplies of a more efficacious one.

The Government has access to expert advice and the final strategy is likely to involve the use of multiple vaccines, which will be the approach most countries will take. Some people will have contraindications to one vaccine, e.g., anaphylaxis, and will need an alternative.

The organisations are also concerned that the current debate over the efficacy of the AstraZeneca vaccine could undermine public trust in the country's vaccination plan.

Whilst robust discussion of the national vaccine policy is important, "the public should have confidence in the approach the Government is taking to providing COVID-19 vaccines in Australia."



Public Health Association
AUSTRALIA

--Ends--

Media contact: Alison Sweeney, Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases Media and Communications Officer at communications@asid.net.au / 0425 221 155.

That has been your megaphone report for Wednesday, January 13.

Addendum. More tweets have come to light, showing why there are multiple comments being made about the AstraZeneca vaccine.

1. PR Guy has driven the discussion.



2. The comparisons continue to be made, at various levels.



Sue Harrold

@sue_harrold



Imagine if condoms were only 62% effective..... Would anyone want to trust that?

8:17 pm · 13/1/21 · [Twitter for Android](#)

16 Retweets **2** Quote Tweets **65** Likes

3. S Morrison has been asked to communicate more clearly. No mention of P. Kelly, the Federal CHO.



💧 🤒 Queen Victoria
@Vic_Rollison



Maybe if Morrison could communicate effectively to the public about why the govt is prioritising the AstraZeneca vaccine ahead of the Pfizer one, and explain how herd immunity will be achieved, instead of going on holidays, the public would trust the process a little more 🙄

8:16 pm · 13/1/21 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

41 Retweets **6** Quote Tweets **247** Likes

4. Difficult to combat this suggestion with so many liking this style of tweet.

↻ PRGuy Retweeted



Daniel Bleakley
@DanielBleakley



The problem Australia faces with the vaccine rollout strategy is that [@DaveSharma](#) doesn't have shares in the vaccine that works.

8:37 am · 13/1/21 · [Twitter Web App](#)

571 Retweets **31** Quote Tweets **2,787** Likes

5. It has become an issue of a performative battle in terms of class.



💧🌍🏳️‍🌈 Jenny Frecklington-Jones;...
@JonesHowdareyou

So. It's not about the "logistics" of Pfizer and how it's "almost impossible" to manage at -70 degrees C. It's all about how much we ordered. 95% protection for the wealthy elites; 62% scanty protection for the plebs. I see. [#auspol](#) [#COVID19](#)



THE Russell - Wash your hands with... · 2h

Prof. Kelly says: "Australia has only been able to secure 10 million doses of Pfizer vaccine and it's unlikely we can get any more..." and "the AstraZenica vaccine is appropriate enough for Australians."

How does that go again? "Those who can, do. Those who can't, teach."

[#auspol](#)



6. Some are connecting the debate about the Astra Seneca vaccine to conspiracies about the agenda of particular individuals, rather than about statements by peak medical bodies and the Federal CHO.



Queen Victoria @Vic_Rolli... · 3h ...

So, have I got this right? I can't join the chorus of credentialed scientists and doctors who are concerned about Australia's vaccination choice without being called a Dan Stan and told I'm only noticing that experts are concerned because I'm a Labor voter? Sounds reasonable.

 25  57  313 



Susan Mackay 🤯 @mackaysuzie · 2h ...

Dan Nolan and Erin Riley have spoken

 2   3 

7. This comment, which challenges any classification attempt.



Catherine (Rollison) Williams · 55m ...

More to the point if I sent my husband to the store to buy condoms and he came home with a variety that was listed as only 62% effective, and there were others available that were 90% effective, I'd question his commitment towards not wanting any more children.



Sue Harrold @sue_harrold · 1h

Imagine if condoms were only 62% effective..... Would anyone want to trust that?

It has become clear that the megaphones, while professing to be supporters of the work of B. Sutton, Victorian CHO, have ignored the thread that he recommends here. <https://t.co/tydqT0CbUL>

Important, honest thread from Allen Cheng on vaccines in Australia. <https://t.co/MoSqe7kBHh>

— Chief Health Officer, Victoria (@VictorianCHO) [January 13, 2021](#)