College By-Law in regard to National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC)

39. The National Immunisation Advisory Committee is to serve the purpose of advising the Department of Health and Children in the area of immunisation procedures and related matters.

The members of the Committee shall be nominated by the bodies listed below on approval of the President of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. Those nominated to the Committee will serve a four-year term and may only be re-elected to serve one additional term. In the event of a member resigning or demitting office prior to the completion of the four-year term, the Chair will write to the nominating body seeking a replacement nominee.

The Committee shall consist of the President (or his/her nominee) and Registrar (or his/her nominee) of the College who will act as Chair and Secretary respectively. The Chief Executive Officer will ordinarily be in attendance. The Committee shall also consist of: two members or nominees of Council of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (one member/representative to include a Consultant in Infectious Disease); one representative of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland(*); one representative of the Irish College of General Practitioners(*); one representative of the Faculty of Paediatrics, RCPI(*); one representative of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine, RCPI(*); one representative of the Faculty of Pathology, RCPI(*); one representative of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine, RCPI(*); one representative of the Department of Health and Children(*); one representative of the Irish Medicines Board(*); one representative of the Virus Reference Laboratory, UCD(*); one representative of the Irish Society of Travel Medicine(*); one representative of the Department of Health and Social Services, Northern Ireland(*); one representative of the Health Service Executive(*); one representative of the Health Protection Surveillance Centre; one representative of the National Immunisation Office; Recording Secretary (normally a Specialist Registrar in Public Health Medicine).

(*) Alternates should be nominated in these areas.

The Chair may recommend co-option of Fellows, non-medical advisors and/or experts to conduct its affairs. Co-opted members will advise the Committee but will not be eligible to vote.

A quorum shall be 6 members of the Committee not including invited guests.

Public statements or publications emanating from the Committee, as a Standing Committee of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, have to be approved by the Executive of the College prior to publication.

The Committee will endeavour to publish updated National Immunisation Guidelines for Ireland on a 3-4 year cycle or as required.

The Committee shall meet 6-10 times per year. However, the Chair of the Committee or President of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland will have the power to call an extraordinary meeting if required.