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Australian Recommendations for the Influenza Vaccine Composition for the 1999 Season

The meeting of the Australian Influenza Vaccine Committee (AIVC) on Influenza Vaccines was convened on 7 October 1998, in order to select virus strains for the manufacture of Influenza Vaccine for 1999 Season.

Having considered the information on international surveillance by WHO and up-to-date epidemiology and strains characterisation presented at the meeting the Committee considered that the WHO recommendations on the composition of vaccines for 1999 Season should be followed:

- **A (H3N2)** an A/Sydney/5/97 (H3N2)–like strain, 15 µg HA per dose.
- **A (H1N1)** an A/Beijing/262/95 (H1N1)–like strain, 15 µg HA per dose.
- **B** a B/Beijing/184/93- like strain, 15 µg HA per dose.

It was also determined that the following viruses are suitable vaccine strains:

- The high yield reassortant viruses IVR-108 and RESVIR-13 are A/Sydney/5/97 (H3N2)-like strains
- The high yield reassortant virus X-127 is accepted as an A/Beijing/262/95 (H1N1)-like strain
- B/Harbin/7/94 is accepted as a B/Beijing/184/93-like strain