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**Title:** Surveillance of Australian Hajj pilgrims for carriage of potentially pathogenic bacteria: Data from two pilot studies

**Authors:** Mohammad Irfan Azeem, Mohamed Tashani, Al-Mamoon Badahdah, Leon Heron, Kristen Pedersen, Neisha Jeoffreys, Jen Kok, Elizabeth Haworth, Dominic E. Dwyer, Grant Hill-Cawthorne, Harunor Rashid and Robert Booy

**Correspondence to:** Mohammad Irfan Azeem, National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance of Vaccine Preventable Diseases, Kids Research Institute, Cnr Hawkesbury Rd and Hainsworth St, The Children's Hospital at Westmead, Locked Bag 4001, Westmead NSW 2145, Australia. Email: [mohammadirfan.azeem@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mohammadirfan.azeem@health.nsw.gov.au)

Tel: +61421 777 439; Fax: +61-29-8451418

**Institutional review board statement:**

Ethics approval was granted by the Hunter New England Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC), Australia (Ref: HREC/13/HNE/265). To verify the vaccination records of pilgrims, data were cross-checked with another ongoing trial by our team with a separate ethics approval from the Hunter New England HREC (Ref13/05/15/3.05).