Media Release

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PROTECT OUR WORLD

Starting on Monday 24 April 2012, the WHO (World Health Organization) is uniting countries in the Western Pacific region for World Immunization Week, to encourage families to vaccinate their children against diseases.

Australia is an immunisation success story said Dr John Kastrissios, GPQ Board Director.

Dr Kastrissios said ‘We have experienced first hand the positive impact of cost-effective immunisation strategies that have aided in preventing debilitating illnesses, disabilities and deaths.

‘It is important to ensure vaccines are stored under correct conditions otherwise they won’t do the job they are intended for’, he said. To support this GPQ in collaboration with Queensland Health has continued to invest in a website to help vaccine service providers with vaccine storage.

This website is based on the “Australian Vaccine Storage Guidelines – Strive for 5” and provides up to date features such as:

- "Tools" to help vaccination service providers implement best practice guidelines;
- "Education and Training" to assist staff involved in vaccine management with information and education on the basic principles of effective vaccine storage and handling.

It is a comprehensive website and one that health professionals will find extremely useful, said Dr John Kastrissios.

For more information visit vaccinemanagement.gpqld.com.au

For more information on Immunization Week 2012 visit http://www.epi-westernpacific.info/immunizationweek2012/18-four-source/200-immunization-week2012

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General Practice Queensland provides strategic leadership, advocacy and representation for General Practice Network and Medicare Local members.