Media Release

- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

Why don’t you give us a call?

Brisbane, QLD, Tuesday 4 August 2009

Most people that become infected by the swine flu will have a mild infection and only require time at home to rest and recuperate, says Dr John Kastrissios, General Practice Queensland Board Chair.

“To enable general practitioners to identify and treat vulnerable patients rapidly, please contact the practice first to let them know about your flu symptoms” he said.

“Protocols are in place to limit the virus spread such as keeping flu patients segregated from other unwell people” said Dr Kastrissios.

“Symptoms of swine flu are similar to seasonal flu and may include a fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose and nasal congestion” said Dr Kastrissios.

Dr Kastrissios said “To limit the spread of swine flu we strongly urge you to call 13HEALTH or your GP if you have influenza like symptoms”.

He said often people who are sick with a fever and a cough should distance themselves by staying home and resting until they recover.

Dr Kastrissios said “That taking precautions such as washing your hands regularly, avoiding crowded places and wearing a mask can all help provide you with some protection”.

Many general practitioners are working hard to respond to the significant increase in the number of patients and ask for the community to be understanding if routine appointments are postponed or cancelled.

“Our main priority is to treat people most vulnerable to swine flu such as diabetics, asthmatics, pregnant women, obese people and patients with underlying medical conditions” said Dr Kastrissios.

For more information please contact:
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General Practice Queensland provides strategic leadership, advocacy and representation for its member divisions and general practice.

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