Media Release

- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

Call for the doctor

Brisbane, QLD, Tuesday 4 August 2009

“Diabetics, asthmatics, pregnant women, obese people and patients with underlying medical conditions are most vulnerable to swine flu says Dr John Kastrissios, General Practice Queensland Board Chair.

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”.

“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.

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.

“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.

He said he people who visit their GP and are particularly unwell will have swabs taken of their nose and throat testing.

Dr Kastrissios said “If you are showing signs of the flu, you will be given medication”.

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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