



### **Advice on H1N1 Influenza (Human Swine Flu): A Guide for Staff**

The following advice is derived from Queensland Health's general advice to the public. The Queensland Health *Swine Flu Response Website* contains regular updates and preventative advice and can be accessed at:

<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/swineflu/>

Further UQ information is available at: [Pandemic Influenza Guideline](#).

Where absences are due to H1N1 influenza, these will be managed in accordance with current UQ leave policy, unless other special leave provisions are in place.

#### **1. Staff member diagnosed with H1N1 influenza**

- If you are diagnosed with H1N1 influenza, you must remain absent from the workplace as advised by your medical practitioner and/or Public Health.
- Notify your manager with an expected date of return to work.

#### **2. Co-Workers of the staff member diagnosed:**

- Public health will follow up and provide information on quarantine and /or provide antiviral medications if necessary.
- Staff are reminded to continue with the flu hygiene practices outlined on the UQ website, emails and posters:
  - washing your hands frequently with soap and water;
  - covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing;
  - immediately disposing of tissues;
  - maintaining a one metre distance from people exhibiting flu-like symptoms;
  - using anti-bacterial hand wash/wipes that have been provided in the workplace.
- If you are developing flu-like symptoms you should seek advice from your medical practitioner including advising that a fellow staff member has been diagnosed with H1N1. You should follow any advice provided by your medical practitioner and advise your manager of any instructions.
- If you have a pre-existing medical condition such as a respiratory illness or heart condition, you may wish to seek specific advice from your medical practitioner regarding management of your medical condition.

#### **3. UQ Staff members who have personal contacts diagnosed with H1N1 influenza**

If, as a UQ staff member, you are advised that a personal contact of yours (eg partner, child) has been diagnosed with H1N1 influenza, you will need to follow the advice of Public Health. In this case you should also notify your manager and, if instructed to be absent from work, you should provide an expected date of return to work if available.