



PRESS RELEASE

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INFLUENZA H1N1 UPDATE

The Government wishes to update the public in the light of the increased level of coverage being given to Influenza H1N1 in the UK and Spanish media.

To date there have been no confirmed cases in Gibraltar. The public are however asked to ensure that they are familiar with the content of the leaflet entitled "SWINE FLU." issued by the Government in early May 2009. The contents of this leaflet are still applicable with one main change, ie, due to the fact that the outbreak has increased in size and affected many countries around the globe (pandemic), all travellers who have flu-like symptoms within 7 days of returning to Gibraltar from **any** country are asked to contact the Swine Flu Helpline:

20044411

Worldwide so far, the virus has resulted in cases of milder illness than with seasonal human influenza and in fewer deaths. As with all influenza, people with pre-existing disease and in the extremes of age seem to be more vulnerable, making it all the more important to be vigilant and prevent it as much as possible.

Therefore, although the UK has decided to not to test patients and treat every suspect case as if it were Influenza H1N1, Gibraltar is not changing its strategy and will continue for the present to trace, test, treat and limit the disease as far as possible. The aim at present is to keep the virus out of the country for as long as this is practicable.

Advice on prevention is given in the Swine Flu leaflet which can be downloaded from the Government's website

http://www.gibraltar.gov.gi/latest_news/SWINE_FLU_TRYPTIC_OK.pdf