

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 1924**  
**Asked on 25 November 2009**

MR BLEIJIE asked the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health (MR LUCAS)—

QUESTION:

With reference to swine flu vaccinations—

- (1) Have any cases been reported where pregnancies have been affected due to the mother receiving the vaccine and if so, how many and what subsequent investigation has been carried out?
- (2) What studies have been completed with respect to the vaccine and its impact on unborn foetuses?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Kawana for his question.

I am advised that as at 21 December 2009 there had been no cases reported to Queensland Health of pregnancies affected due to the mother receiving the vaccine.

By contrast, around one quarter of women aged 15 to 44 who were hospitalised due to H1N1, were pregnant. In a small number of cases, miscarriages have resulted when pregnant women became infected with swine flu.

That is another good reason why Queenslanders should get vaccinated.

Panvax® H1N1 like all pharmaceutical and therapeutic products distributed in Australia, has been approved by the Australian Government's Therapeutic Goods Administration. That Australian Government agency is responsible for safeguarding public health and safety by regulating medicines, medical devices, blood and tissue.

The vaccine is manufactured using the same processes that are employed for the production of seasonal influenza vaccine, a vaccine that has been in regular, safe, use in Australia for many years.

For further information, I would refer the Honourable Member to the Australian Government's website

<http://www.healthemergency.gov.au/internet/healthemergency/publishing.nsf/Content/pandemic-vaccine-qna#40>.