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World-renown child health expert offers parents definitive H1N1 advice

Vancouver – Just how dangerous is the H1N1 flu for children? Since March of 2009 when the World Health Organization declared the H1N1 virus would reach pandemic proportions, information on the virus has likewise proliferated and parents have been left with the arduous task of searching through a bewildering array of pamphlets, media reports and a host of websites to find information that is often confusing, conflicting, and unreliable.

In this new, clear, and concise book, ***Swine Flu H1N1—The Facts***, world child health expert Dr. Terence Stephenson defines the key medical and epidemiological terms parents need to know and provides a succinct history of past pandemics to set the H1N1 outbreak in a broader context. He then answers key questions: What is the Swine Flu? What treatments are available? Is H1N1 flu more dangerous for children and why?

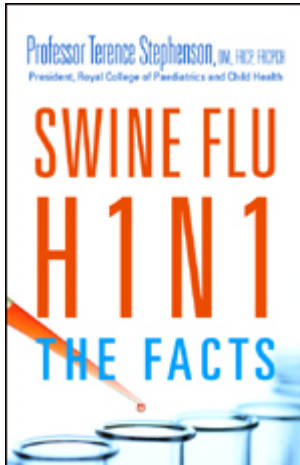
What makes the book particularly informative in light of the current controversies, are the chapters on anti-viral drugs and vaccines. Dr. Stephenson outlines in straightforward language the science behind vaccines for non-pandemic seasonal flus and how they are produced. He explains why, if a child has a severe allergic reaction to eggs, they should not receive a certain type of vaccine. He also challenges claims that the use of ethyl mercury in vaccines leads to autism, “Three studies involved over 600,000 children have examined this issue and all three studies produced very reassuring results. None of the studies found any link between thiomersal exposure from childhood immunization programmes and disorders such as autism.”

This important and helpful publication was released today by Jessica Kingsley Publishers, an internationally-known and highly respected publisher of books on parenting. Included is a Frequently Asked Question section at the back of the book and a list of websites for finding up-to-the minute information.



Professor Terence Stephenson is the **President of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH)**, and is currently Professor of Child Health and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Nottingham, and a Consultant Paediatrician and Non-Executive Director, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust. Most recently Professor Stephenson has been appointed Nuffield Professor of Child Health at the UCL Institute of Child Health.

A limited number of review copies will be available on October 13th. To find out more about the book please contact Kerry Kilmartin at kilmartin@ubcpres.ca or 604.822.8244. Interviews with Terence Stephenson can be arranged, though these will be limited due to his other obligations.



SWINE FLU/H1N1 THE FACTS

Professor Terence Stephenson

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Kerry Kilmartin
Exhibits, Reviews and Awards Manager
UBC Press, 2029 West Mall
Vancouver BC V6T 1Z2 CANADA
t: 604.822.8244 f: 604.822.6083

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