

FRIDAY, 6 AUGUST 2021



SUBJECT: DOCTORS IN QUARANTINE

DR KIM HANSEN, CHAIR AMA QUEENSLAN RAMPING ROUNDTABLE, EMERGENCY PHYSICIAN

ABC RADIO BRISBANE BREAKFAST WITH CRAIG ZONCA AND LORETTA RYAN

CRAIG ZONCA: Dr Kim Hansen is in quarantine. Kim, good morning to you.

KIM HANSEN: Good morning Craig, good morning Loretta.

CRAIG ZONCA: How are you coping with quarantine with, it's three children you have, isn't it?

KIM HANSEN: Yeah, it is. Look, we're managing okay, but it's pretty frustrating not being able to go to work or to get outside and exercise and shop, but we know we have to do this, and so we're bunkering down for two weeks.

LORETTA RYAN: What got you into quarantine?

KIM HANSEN: It was a contact at school, unfortunately.

LORETTA RYAN: And which school's that?

KIM HANSEN: Brisbane Girls' Grammar.

LORETTA RYAN: And you're also one of hundreds of medical families, then, from those schools who are quarantining around that area. How difficult is it for you to be away from hospital at this time? What effect is it having?

KIM HANSEN: Well, I haven't had to not go to work before, so it's a real shock to the system. I love my work and I just want to get back out there to be seeing patients. But my colleagues are picking up the slack. I'm really grateful that they can do that.

CRAIG ZONCA: How are you doing with the home schooling, Dr Hansen?

KIM HANSEN: Oh, it's a whole new world, Craig. I'm the IT help desk, I'm the teacher's assistant, I'm the cleaner, I'm the tuckshop lady. Teachers do an amazing job, that's all I can say. It's tougher than it looks.

CRAIG ZONCA: But this is a health emergency that we are in. As an ED doctor, does it give you even more pause for thought? What would be your message to others around Southeast Queensland, given that we are hoping for good numbers today, and that we do come out of lockdown on Sunday at 4pm?

KIM HANSEN: I guess the real worry is that Delta just breaks all the rules. This virus is a killer, and so my message is just to abide by all the instructions that we get from the Chief Health Officer. It's only by everybody following the rules that we're going to be able to get out of this, so wearing a mask, staying at home as much as possible, and I'm just hoping that we can get out of this lockdown.

LORETTA RYAN: And you've all gone and had your tests as a family?

KIM HANSEN: Yeah, that's right, we've all had to go and have a test, and then a nervous 24-hour wait for the result, but thankfully we're all negative.

LORETTA RYAN: And how did the kids go having the tests, how did they feel about it?

KIM HANSEN: Look, there were no tears, so they did well. It is uncomfortable, everyone who's had one knows it. It just is what it is, it's what we have to do to keep the community safe.

CRAIG ZONCA: Dr Hansen, thanks so much for joining us this morning and painting that picture of what it's like for so many other health professionals who are caught up. You'd love to be in your regular job as an ED doctor, but at home with the family in quarantine right now. Thanks so much for joining us.

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