

Patient recall letter (previous refusal)

Use this copy to recall patients to your surgery who have declined influenza immunisation in previous years. Available from the resource section of www.influenza.org.nz website. Letterhead also available via website.

Dear

Don't let the flu get you – Immunisation is Free for you.

We are aware that you have previously declined the annual influenza immunisation and respect your decision. This year we invite you to reconsider receiving protection from influenza for the following reasons:

- Risk of Pandemic Influenza (H1N1) Swine Flu may increase in a second wave as early as this autumn. It is a new type of influenza that you may not have been exposed to before and may therefore have no immunity against.
- For most people pandemic influenza is a mild to moderate illness; however, for some it is serious and can lead to complications, even death.
- In New Zealand, the 2010 seasonal influenza vaccine also contains protection against Swine Flu.
- You are eligible for FREE influenza immunisation either because you are 65 years or over, or because you have an ongoing medical condition that puts you at greater risk for complications.
- Influenza vaccine cannot cause influenza because it contains no live viruses.
- It doesn't matter how fit and healthy you are – you can still get influenza.
- Any type of influenza can be a serious illness with severe effects – it's not just a 'bad cold'.

Call us to make an appointment TODAY as influenza immunisation is FREE only until June 30th.

Yours sincerely

P.S. Remember, tell your friends and family/whanau that influenza immunisation (including protection from Swine Flu) is now available. Some may qualify for free vaccination. The more people who are protected against influenza, the less it can spread.



visit www.fightflu.co.nz

The influenza vaccine is a Prescription Medicine. Talk to your doctor or nurse about the benefits and possible risks.