



Level 1, 56 Lincoln Rd, Henderson, Waitakere City
Ph: (09) 838 1523 Fax: (09) 838 1524

MEDIA RELEASE

28/04/2009

GET IMMUNISED NOW

A West Auckland health care organisation is urging local residents to get immunised against influenza this winter, in the wake of the recent swine flu scare.

Waiora Healthcare PHO (Primary Health Organisation) offers low cost immunisations to patients enrolled with any of their eight GP Practices, targeting families that might not otherwise be able to afford to see a doctor or nurse.

Waiora's Clinical & Quality Manager Janine Strickland says that while New Zealand vaccines will not immunise against swine flu they offer increased protection against common forms of flu, Types A and B.

"About 40 deaths each year in New Zealand are related to influenza," says Ms Strickland.

"The flu is highly contagious – about 20 per cent of people will get it each year and immunisation reduces your risk of getting it and spreading it to others in the family."

Ms Strickland says West Auckland families should start booking appointments now to get immunised as it can take up to two weeks to develop immunity.

Contact your GP to book an appointment or phone Waiora Healthcare on Ph 838 1523 to find a health centre near you.

ENDS

CONTACT:

Janine Strickland - Waiora Healthcare Clinical & Quality Manager
Ph 838 1523 or email janines@waiorahealthcare.co.nz