



Information Sheet for Children

Locality: Wellington
Lead Investigator: Sue Huang
Phone: 04 529 0600

What is the WellKiwis Flu Study?

The WellKiwis Flu study is learning about the flu (influenza) and how children's bodies fight it.

We want to find out:

- What happens when you get the flu or flu vaccine for the first time.
- How often you get the flu.
- How your body fights the flu as you get older.

Why am I being asked to continue in the study?

You have been in the WellKiwis Flu Study since you were a baby.

We would like you to think about staying in the study to help us learn more about the flu.

Your mum, dad, or caregiver can tell you more about the study. You can also speak to the study team if you want to. We are happy to help.

What will happen if I say yes?

If you choose to stay in the study:

- You will answer some questions.
- You will write your name on a form.



If you get ill

If your mum, dad, or caregiver tell us that you have a cough or fever, we may ask them to take a nose swab from you.

A nose swab is like a big cotton bud that gently rubs inside your nose.

As you get older, you may choose to do the swab yourself with help from a grown-up.

Blood tests

Sometimes we will ask for a blood sample from your arm, using a small needle.

This may happen:

- Once at the end of each year.
- A few weeks after a flu vaccine, if you have one.
- If you get the flu, we will take 2 blood samples to see how your body is fighting the virus.

The 1st sample will be taken soon after you get the flu, around 1-2 weeks.

The 2nd sample will be taken 3 to 7 weeks later.

Thank You gift

To say thank you for helping with the study, you will get a \$30 gift card for each nose swab or blood sample.

This gift card will be sent to your mum, dad, or caregiver by email.

Will being in this study help me?

If you get ill, we can sometimes find out if your illness was caused by:

- Flu
- COVID-19
- Another virus

Knowing what made you ill can help your family look after you.

What we learn may also help other children and families in the future.

What if I am worried or have any questions?

If you have any questions or are worried about the study, please talk to:

- Your mum, dad or caregiver
- The study team

We will do our best to answer your questions.

Do I have to be in the study?

No. Being in the study is your choice.

You can:

- say yes
- say no
- change your mind later

You do not have to give a reason.



Will the blood sample or nose swab hurt?

A **blood sample** may:

- hurt or bleed for a short time
- leave a small bruise on your arm

A **nose swab** may:

- feel a bit tickly
- make you want to sneeze

These feelings do not last long.

Who can I talk to?

If you have questions, you or a grown-up can contact:

Dr. Sue Huang

Phone: 04 529 0600

WellKiwis Study Team

Phone 0800 493555 (08004WELLKIWI)

email WellKiwis@phfscience.nz



If you want to talk to someone who is not part of the study, you can contact a:

Health and Disability Advocate

Freephone 0800 555 050

Remember

- It is your choice to be in the study.
- You can ask questions at any time.
- You can stop being in the study whenever you want.