

# Additional information for patients coming for biochemical blood tests

NHS Health Protection Scotland is monitoring the seasonal influenza immunisation programme in Scotland and measuring immunity to flu.

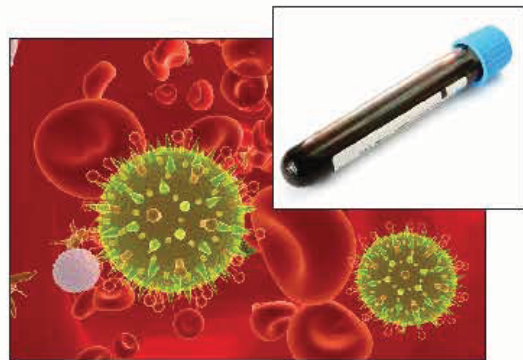
During your appointment a sample may be taken from you to check for biochemical abnormality (for example salt or liver disturbance).

If you have a blood sample taken during your examination a very small amount of the biochemistry sample that is left over after all your tests are finished may be tested for flu.

Your name will be removed from your sample so it cannot be traced back to you.

No extra samples will be taken from you for this.

This will help us measure the success of the immunisation programme and work out how the population would be affected by new strains of flu (like pandemic strains).



The results will help the NHS to plan future services for preventing influenza in Scotland.

If you decide that you do not want part of your sample used for this purpose, you can say so. Your treatment and care will not be affected in any way. Please let your general practitioner know.

If you would like to find out more information please call Health Protection Scotland on 0141 300 1100 during office hours and ask to speak to the HPS Flu team Or send an email to: [nss.flu@nhs.net](mailto:nss.flu@nhs.net)

