

Protect your *child*, without the *needle*.

Getting a flu vaccination helps protect you,
your family and your community.



Understanding the Nasal Spray Flu Vaccine.

There is now a needle free option administered as a nasal spray available for eligible patients*, especially for children. This is sprayed into each nostril and stimulates the immune system in the mucous membranes of the nose and throat, leading to the production of antibodies. These antibodies help protect against flu viruses by neutralising them before they can enter the body and cause illness. A quick and gentle method, ideal for young children and people with needle anxiety.

Unlike the flu shot, the needle-free vaccine contains weakened strains of the influenza virus. These weakened viruses are also "cold-adapted," meaning they are designed to multiply only at the cooler temperatures found in the nose and not in warmer areas such as the lungs. As a result, the vaccine cannot cause influenza itself.

Is the needle free option as effective as the flu shot?

Yes, it has been shown to be as effective as the flu shot, particularly in children, and can significantly help improve uptake of influenza vaccination in this age group.

What are the side effects?

All medicines, including vaccines can have side effects. Some children may develop a runny or blocked nose, mild headache, sore throat, tiredness, irritability or reduced appetite. These effects are mild and short-lived, especially compared with having the flu itself.

Speak to your 777 Pharmacist about this vaccine option.

Pharmacy 777®

**Nasal spray influenza vaccine available for eligible children. Age and clinical eligibility criteria apply.*