

COVID-19 ALERT

In moving to Level 2 lockdown, there will be a further loosening of restrictions that have been in place up until this point.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 will remain a possibility in the community until a vaccine is available. We ask all patients to continue their personal vigilance, maintain physical distancing within the surgery and if you have any respiratory symptoms, to please wear a mask (even a homemade mask will do). It is vital that you tell someone at the time of making your appointment.

The Darfield and West Melton Medical Centres will again be your first point of contact, but to minimise unnecessary exposure to possible Covid-19, we are separating all patients with coughs and colds from others. These patients will all be seen at the West Melton Medical Centre, where they will be screened for Covid-19 and swabbed for Covid-19 if needed. Staff will work in full PPE gear. ALL other patients will be diverted to the Darfield Medical Centre and we thank you for your support.

We will continue with telephone consultations as before and in-person consultations as required. This will also be a chance to check with a doctor any care that have been deferred during the lock-down. We also ask that you do not turn up to the medical centre without prior appointment - you will NOT be seen. Remain in your car, until the very last minute before your appointment and entering the building.

Darfield is now receiving extra funding for those patients with Community Services Cards. Adults \$19 and their dependants ages 14 - 17 yrs old \$13. There may be additional charges that apply, please check with reception. Phone consultations will incur the same charges as an office visit. Be aware that no Credit is allowed. Please make any payment immediately after your consult with the doctor, if possible via Paywave, or online:

Darfield Medical Centre Ltd Bank Account number **ANZ: 011188008543300**

To prevent unnecessary congestion in the waiting room, repeat prescriptions, ACC, and WINZ certificates can be done by telephone most of the time. These can be faxed or emailed and do not come to the Medical Centre if you do not need to.

Flu vaccination supplies are in high demand due to shipment delays. Please arrive early for your appointment and wait near the entrance. We ask patients to please remove all unnecessary clothing in advance, to facilitate a possible quick "standup visit" with the doctor or nurse. When an injection eg flu jab is expected or bloods need to be taken, it will be useful to dress so that an arm or shoulder can easily be exposed in public. Any additional family members or helpers, must remain outside the building and in your car. This is to ensure that we can continue to provide help and support for the community and to limit spread of COVID-19 in the safest way possible.