

## CHLORINATION FAQs

### Why is it necessary to chlorinate the water?

Chlorine is a highly efficient disinfectant and helps kill harmful bacteria that may exist in the water or in the water supply pipes. It has been added as a precautionary measure to safe guard the water from potentially harmful bacteria and to ensure the water supply complies with the required drinking water standards.

### Will chlorine affect my health?

Current studies indicate that using or drinking water with small amounts of chlorine does not cause harmful health effects. Its widespread use has been a major factor in reducing illness from waterborne diseases.

Even with the small volumes of chlorine used to some people will be able to taste it and some will notice the smell.

Please click on the link below regarding NZ drinking water standards -

- <http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/drinking-water-standards-new-zealand-2005-revised-2008>

### Can chlorine affect existing conditions?

Yes, in a small number of people chlorine can be an irritant for an existing condition such as asthma or eczema. If you notice increased skin irritation, asthma symptoms or other symptoms – seek medical advice. You can contact Healthine 0800 611 116 or your family doctor (GP).