



Bird flu or cash cow?

They're saying it'll be the mother of all pandemics, or is that just a marketing ploy, writes Hilary Butler

Macquarie University Professor Peter Curson¹ understated the situation when he said New Zealand governmental headless chook preparations for the bird flu were over the top.

The baseline for whipping up hysteria about this great bird flu pandemic to come is, of course, the 1918 influenza epidemic. Not a word of the 1976 Swine-Flu fiasco, when neurotic American medics / media announced that a virus similar to the 1918 flu was about to wipe out America! The vaccine was made, marketed, manufac-

turers indemnified, bad reactions started, the vaccine withdrawn... and guess what? The epidemic never happened.

I looked in vain for a newspaper to comment on an item in the appendices to *Parliamentary Journals* in 1919² reporting that by January 1918 Mr P. L. Hickey had liberally stocked all hospitals with the highly "successful" vaccine used in 1917 in the war fields of Europe, to prevent the 1918 pandemic from happening. Ignorance is bliss.

Along comes Pandemic Preparedness.

First item you are to stock? Paracetamol to ease any aches. Why recommend paracetamol, which has been known since 2000 to undermine the immune system and prolong the flu from 5 days to 8 ½ days³, and can kill when given for the flu⁴, and is the major cause of acute liver failure and transplants in USA⁵?

Why recommend Tamiflu, which doesn't work⁶, has significant side effects⁷, and other anti-viral drugs are becoming flu resistant at an alarming rate⁸?

Right on our doorsteps, Selenium deficient New Zealand has the possible answers.

- Selenium deficiency causes flu viruses to mutate, increasing viral virulence⁹¹⁰¹¹. Ironically bird flu epidemics are occurring principally in selenium deficient areas in the world.

- Elderberry's ability to stop influenza and bird flu virus attaching to cells and cause infection was first studied in bird flu¹² and the effectiveness of the unpatented compound that is Sambucol was recently confirmed in laboratory trials in London¹³ by reputable flu expert, Dr John Oxford.

- Meanwhile doctor/Scientist Dr Laibow¹⁴ is left to discuss why Vitamin C will be of major use, on a fringe website.

- Fresh garlic not only is antibacterial, antiviral to all viruses tested¹⁵, antifungal and antiprotozoal, but it also has beneficial effects on the cardiovascular and immune systems¹⁶¹⁷.

Doctors know New Zealand is selenium deficient, and that selenium supplementation reduces the death rate, disease incidence, severity and viral activity in many diseases including hepatitis B, HIV, influenza, coxsackie induced myocarditis, AIDS and viral haemorrhagic fever¹⁸. Doctors know that bird flu is changing before their eyes¹⁹ isn't nearly as dangerous as they have maintained up until now²⁰ with mild infections far more common than previously thought²¹. Of course, their reasons for admitting that, was to hype up the possibility that large numbers of mild disease could quickly become a pandemic. Sane people overseas have already figured that quarantine will be ineffective²², but New Zealand planners haven't. Pete Hodgson's official line is "Pandemic Planning too important for politics²³".

The FDA in America is now in full "stalk" mode, issuing 'cease and desist'

