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March 2002

Dear «e0title» «e0surname»

### **The Chlamydia Screening Study - ClaSS**

I wrote to you recently about the Chlamydia Screening Study (*ClaSS*), and am now inviting you to take part. Our practice is taking part in this large NHS funded research project with researchers at the Universities of Bristol and Birmingham and the Public Health Laboratory Service. Below are answers to some questions you may have about the study.

- **Why have I been chosen?**

Your name was selected **completely by chance** from our practice list. This has nothing to do with any tests or treatment you may have had in the past. Altogether, 22,000 people aged 16 to 39 years from our practice and others in the Bristol and Birmingham areas are being asked to take part.

- **Why are we doing this study?**

Chlamydia is an infection that is passed from person to person, usually through sexual intercourse. Chlamydia is easily cured with antibiotics but, if left untreated, it can lead to serious problems, like infertility in women. Most people don't realise they have Chlamydia so they don't get treatment. We are helping the NHS to find the best way to make sure men and women get treatment to stop the spread of Chlamydia and the problems it causes.

- **What do I need to do?**

If you decide to take part in the study, you will need to take a sample to be tested for Chlamydia and complete a short questionnaire and sign a consent form. These can all be posted in the Freepost envelope. Full instructions are included in this study pack and in the information leaflet. **If you decide to take part we will send you a £10 gift voucher to thank you for your time. In addition, everyone who takes part will be entered in a lottery for a prize of £1000.** If you do not want the voucher we will donate the money to Barnardo's on your behalf.

If you decide not to take part please fill in the enclosed form (marked "Non-participation") and return the study pack to us as instructed. In this way we will know not to contact you again. If we don't hear from you we may contact you again to check that you received the pack.

Yours sincerely



Dr P Y Kalfayan on behalf of all partners at The Family Practice

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