



NEONATAL Medication Monograph

OSELTAMIVIR

This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)





Restricted: Requires Neonatologist or Microbiologist review within 24 hours of initiation

⚠ Antiviral therapy should be commenced within 48 hours of symptoms or contact with an infected person

Presentation	<p>Oral Powder for Suspension: 6mg/mL</p> <p>Oral Capsule: 75mg</p>												
Description	<p>Oseltamivir is a neuraminidase inhibitor. It reduces influenza virus replication by inhibiting the viral surface enzyme neuraminidase thereby preventing release of new virus from cells</p>												
Indications	<p>Treatment of confirmed or suspected influenza virus</p>												
Contraindications	<p>Contraindicated in patients with a previous hypersensitivity reaction to oseltamivir or other neuraminidase inhibitor</p>												
Precautions	<p>Hereditary fructose intolerance as oseltamivir powder for oral suspension (Tamiflu®) contains 0.9g of sorbitol for every 30mg of oseltamivir</p>												
Dosage	<p>Oral:</p> <p>Usual Duration of treatment is 5 Days</p> <p>Note: Longer treatment may be necessary for patients whose illness is prolonged, critically ill patients with respiratory failure or immunosuppressed people as per microbiology</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Gestational age</u></th> <th><u>Dose</u></th> <th><u>Frequency</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><38 weeks</td> <td>1 mg/kg</td> <td>Every 12 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>38-40 weeks</td> <td>1.5 mg/kg</td> <td>Every 12 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>40 weeks</td> <td>3 mg/kg</td> <td>Every 12 hours</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Gestational age</u>	<u>Dose</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<38 weeks	1 mg/kg	Every 12 hours	38-40 weeks	1.5 mg/kg	Every 12 hours	>40 weeks	3 mg/kg	Every 12 hours
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Dosage Adjustment	Dose adjustment may be required in renal impairment. Contact Microbiology
Adverse Reactions	Common: nausea, vomiting (usually for first 1–2 days), mild rash, transient rise in transaminases
	Serious: Anaphylaxis, severe skin reactions
Preparation	<p><u>Oral Powder for Suspension</u></p> <p>Add 55 mL of water to bottle containing oseltamivir powder for suspension</p> <p><u>Final concentration is 6mg/mL</u></p> <p><i>Use commercial solution if available</i></p> <p>If solution not available – prepare the following solution using 75mg oseltamivir capsules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open ONE oseltamivir capsule (75mg) and disperse the contents in 12.5mL of water. • Shake or stir until an even dispersion is formed (\approx 2 minutes) and then measure the dose immediately. • Concentration is $75\text{mg}/12.5\text{mL} = \underline{6\text{mg/mL}}$ • Discard any unused solution
Administration	<p>Oral: May be given with or without food. Tolerability may be improved with food</p> <p>To avoid confusion with dosing, the supplied Tamiflu® oral syringe should <u>not</u> be used.</p>
Monitoring	Closely monitor patients with influenza for neurologic symptoms and symptom improvement
Storage	<p>The Commercial reconstituted suspension does NOT require refrigeration and should be discarded 10 days after reconstitution.</p> <p>Discard any unused dispersed capsule solution immediately.</p>
Notes	The osmolality of a dispersed capsule is 75 mOsm/kg. The osmolality of the suspension will be greater than this, and is suitable for infants on full feeds.

References	<p>Truven Health Analytics. Oseltamivir. In: NeoFax [Internet]. Greenwood Village (CO): Truven Health Analytics; 2020 [cited 2020 Apr 06]. Available from: https://neofax.micromedexsolutions.com/</p> <p>Australian Medicines Handbook. Oseltamivir. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2020 [cited 2020 Apr 06]. Available from: https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</p> <p>MIMS Australia. Tamiflu Powder for oral suspension, Capsules. In: MIMS Online [Internet]. St Leonards (New South Wales): MIMS Australia; 2020 [cited 2020 Apr 06]. Available from: https://www.mimsonline.com.au</p>
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Keywords:	Oseltamivir, Tamiflu, influenza, flu		
Publishing:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intranet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internet	
Document owner:	Head of Department - Neonatology		
Author / Reviewer:	KEMH & PCH Pharmacy / Neonatology Directorate		
Date first issued:	October 2013	Version:	3.0
Last reviewed:	April 2020	Next review date:	April 2023
Endorsed by:	Neonatal Directorate Management Group	Date:	April 2020
Standards Applicable:	NSQHS Standards: 1  Governance, 3  Infection Control, 4  Medication Safety, 8  Acute Deterioration		

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