

Memo

NHS Lanarkshire Antimicrobial Management Team (AMT)

To: All Clinical Staff – Acute Hospitals, NHS Lanarkshire

From: NHS Lanarkshire Antimicrobial Management Team (NHSL AMT)

Date: 01/2024

Subject: **TAMIFLU (OSELTAMIVIR) FOR THE TREATMENT OF INFLUENZA - DOSE ADJUSTMENT ACCORDING TO WEIGHT AND RENAL IMPAIRMENT – IN ADULT PATIENTS**

With the increased number of influenza cases, multiple dosing errors with Tamiflu (Oseltamivir phosphate) have been identified. Please note:

- Tamiflu (Oseltamivir phosphate) should be initiated within 2 days of onset of symptoms of influenza
- Dose adjustments must be made to take account of **low weight** or **impaired renal function**

British National Formulary dosing - treatment of influenza:

➤ Body weight adjustments:

Body weight	Recommended dose for treatment
41kg and above	75 mg morning and night for 5 days (10 days if immunocompromised).
24 - 40kg	60 mg every morning and night for 5 days (10 days if immunocompromised).

Accumulation can result in an increase of side effects, including hepatotoxicity (uncommon/rare), vomiting, nausea and headache. Therefore, dose adjustments must be made in cases of renal impairment. Use the NHSL calculator available on FirstPort to calculate an accurate renal function.

The weight based dose must be adjusted according to the renal function

Renal Drug Database (RDD) dosing – treatment of influenza¹:

➤ Renal dose adjustment:

Creatinine clearance	Recommended dose for treatment
> 30 (ml/min)	Dose as in normal renal function
> 10 to 30 (ml/min)	75mg once a day OR 30 mg (suspension or capsules) morning and night
≤ 10 (ml/min)	75mg as a single dose

Summary

All prescribing clinicians should have an awareness of the dose adjustments required for Tamiflu (Oseltamivir phosphate) to take account of **low weight** or **impaired renal function**.