

Memo

NHS Lanarkshire Antimicrobial Management Team (AMT)

To: All Clinical Staff – Acute Hospitals, NHS Lanarkshire

From: NHS Lanarkshire Antimicrobial Management Team (NHSL AMT)

Date: 11/2025

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, prescribers should be aware of the following prescribing advice for Tamiflu (Oseltamivir phosphate):

- 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. Creatinine Clearance (CrCl) can be used to estimate renal function – refer to [NHSL CrCl Cockcroft-Gault calculator](#)

Additionally, check the renal function and adjust the dose as below:

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**.