DRUG QUANTITY MANAGEMENT POLICY – PER DAYS

POLICY: Anti-Influenza Drug Quantity Management Policy – Per Days
- Relenza® (zanamivir inhalation powder – GlaxoSmithKline)
- Tamiflu® (oseltamivir capsules, powder for oral suspension – Genentech, generic)
- Xofluza® (baloxavir marboxil tablets – Genentech)

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OVERVIEW

Table 1. Indications of the Anti-Influenza Agents.[1,2,10]

	Indication
Tamiflu® (oseltamivir phosphate capsules and powder for oral suspension, generic)	• Treatment of acute, uncomplicated illness due to influenza A and B infection in patients **≥ 2 weeks of age** who have been symptomatic for ≤ 48 hours. • Prophylaxis of influenza A and B in patients **≥ 1 year of age**. Limitations of Use. Not recommended for patients with ESRD not undergoing dialysis.
Relenza® (zanamivir inhalation powder)	• Treatment of uncomplicated acute illness due to influenza A and B virus in adults and pediatric **patients ≥ 7 years of age** who have been symptomatic for ≤ 2 days. • Prophylaxis of influenza in adults and pediatric patients **≥ 5 years of age.** Limitations of Use. Not recommended for use in persons with underlying airway disease (e.g., asthma, COPD) due to risk of serious bronchospasm; has not been proven to be effective for treatment of influenza for patients with underlying airway disease; has not been proven effective for treatment of influenza in the nursing home setting.
Xofluza® (baloxavir marboxil tablets)	• Treatment of acute, uncomplicated influenza in patients **≥ 12 years of age** who have been symptomatic for ≤ 48 hours and who are otherwise healthy or at high risk of developing influenza-related complications. • Post-exposure prophylaxis of influenza in patients **≥ 12 years of age** following contact with an individual who has influenza.

ESRD – End-stage renal disease; COPD – Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Dosing

Oseltamivir

Treatment[1]
- Patients ≥ 13 years of age: 75 mg twice daily (BID) for 5 days.
- Patients 2 weeks of age through 12 years of age: weight-based dose administered BID. Refer to table below for weight-based dosing.

Prophylaxis[1]
- Patients ≥ 13 years of age: 75 mg once daily (QD) for at least 10 days for household exposure and up to 6 weeks for community outbreak. Oseltamivir may be used for up to 12 weeks in immunocompromised patients.
- Patients 1 year to 12 years of age: weight-based dose administered QD. Use for 10 days for household exposure and up to 6 weeks during a community outbreak.

Of note, dose adjustments are required for patients with renal dysfunction for both treatment and prophylaxis with oseltamivir.[1]

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Table 2. Oseltamivir Dosage Recommendations for Treatment and Prophylaxis of Influenza.[1]

Weight	Treatment Dosage for 5 days	Prophylaxis Dosing for 10 days	Volume of Oral Suspension (6 mg/mL) for each dose	Number of Bottles of Oral Suspension Needed to Complete Course	Number of Capsules needed to Complete Course
2 weeks to < 1 year of age					
Any weight	3 mg/kg BID	NA	0.5 mL/kg	1 bottle	NA
1 to 12 years of age					
15 kg or less	30 mg BID	30 mg QD	5 mL	1 bottle	10 x 30 mg capsules
15.1 kg – 23 kg	45 mg BID	45 mg QD	7.5 mL	2 bottles	10 x 45 mg capsules
23.1 kg – 40 kg	60 mg BID	60 mg QD	10 mL	2 bottles	20 x 30 mg capsules
≥ 40.1 kg	75 mg BID	75 mg QD	12.5 mL	3 bottles	10 x 75 mg capsules
≥ 13 years of age					
Any weight	75 mg BID	75 mg QD	12.5 mL	3 bottles	10 x 75 mg capsules

BID – Twice daily; NA – Not applicable; QD – Once daily.

Relenza

Treatment[2]

- 10 mg (2 inhalations) QD for 10 days.

Prophylaxis[2]

- Household setting: 10 mg QD for 10 days.
- Community outbreak: 10 mg QD for 28 days.

Xofluza

Treatment and Prophylaxis[3]

Single dose of the following:

- Patient weighing 40 kg to < 80 kg: 40 mg.
- Patient weighing ≥ 80 kg: 80 mg.

Availability

Oseltamivir (Tamiflu, generic) is available as 30 mg, 45 mg, and 75 mg capsules in blister packs containing 10 capsules each.[1] It is also available as an oral suspension that is supplied as a powder, which after reconstitution delivers a total usable volume of 60 mL (6 mg/mL).

Each oral inhalation blister of Relenza delivers 5 mg of zanamivir.[1] Each circular double-foil pack (a Rotadisk) contains 4 blisters of drug. Five Rotadisks are packaged in a white tube, which is packaged in a box with one Diskhaler inhalation device.

Xofluza is available as 20 mg, 40 mg, and 80 mg tablets.[10] The 40 mg and 80 mg tablets are available as single tablets. There is also a 40 mg dose pack (2 x 20 mg tablets in a blister card) and an 80 mg dose pack (2 x 40 mg tablets in a blister card).

Guidelines

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended duration for antiviral treatment is 5 days for Tamiflu and Relenza.[4] However, longer dosing may be considered for patients who remain severely ill following 5 days of treatment. Treatment with Xofluza is given as a single-dose. The recommended duration of chemoprophylaxis with the antiviral agents is 7 days after last known exposure. For outbreak control in institutional settings (e.g., long-term care facilities) and hospitals, chemoprophylaxis is recommended with Tamiflu or Relenza for a minimum of 2 weeks and continuing up to 1 week after the last known case was identified. With Xofluza, a single-dose of post-exposure prophylaxis is recommended.

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In the United States, influenza is most common during the fall and winter.[5] Most often, influenza activity peaks between December and January. Therefore, two influenza seasons can occur within the same 365-day period. Based on this, a quantity limit of up to two treatment courses per 365 days is placed on these agents.

POLICY STATEMENT

This Drug Quantity Management program has been developed to prevent the stockpiling, misuse, and/or overuse of oseltamivir (Tamiflu, generic), Relenza, and Xofluza. If the Drug Quantity Management rule is not met for the requested medication at the point of service, coverage will be determined by the Criteria below. All approvals are provided for the duration noted below. In cases where the approval is authorized in months, 1 month is equal to 30 days.

Automation: None.

Drug Quantity Limits

Product	Strength	Maximum Quantity per 365 days
Tamiflu® (oseltamivir capsules, generic)	30 mg capsules	40 capsules$^{\alpha}$
	45 mg capsules	20 capsules†
	75 mg capsules	20 capsules†
Tamiflu® (powder for oral suspension, generic)	6 mg/mL oral suspension (60 mL bottles)	6 bottles (360 mL)$^{\beta}$
Relenza® (zanamivir inhalation powder)	5 mg per inhalation (20 blisters per box)	40 inhalations (2 boxes)$^{\Delta}$
Xofluza® (baloxavir marboxil tablets)	40 mg dose pack (2 x 20 mg tablets)	2 dose packs (4 x 20 mg tablets)$^{\Omega}$
	80 mg dose pack (2 x 40 mg tablets)	2 dose packs (4 x 40 mg tablets)$^{\Omega}$
	40 mg tablets	2 tablets$^{\Omega}$
	80 mg tablets	2 tablets$^{\Omega}$

$^{\alpha}$ 40 of the 30 mg capsules is a quantity sufficient for two courses per year of 5 days of treatment or 10 days of prophylaxis for patients who need a 30 mg or 60 mg dose; † 20 of the 45 mg or 75 mg capsules is quantity sufficient for two courses per year of 5 days of treatment or 10 days of prophylaxis; $^{\beta}$ Six 60 mL bottles of oral suspension is a quantity sufficient for two courses per year of 5 days of treatment or 10 days of prophylaxis for a patient who requires up to a 75 mg dose; $^{\Delta}$ 40 inhalations is a quantity sufficient for two treatment courses per year or up to 20 days of prophylaxis; $^{\Omega}$ Two dose packs or two tablets is a quantity sufficient to provide for up to two single-dose treatment or prophylaxis doses per year.

CRITERIA

Oseltamivir (Tamiflu, generic)

1. If the patient remains severely ill and requires a longer treatment course, approve an override for an additional course of treatment (refer to the table below for the override quantity) between November 1st and March 31st.

Product	Strength	Override Quantity
Tamiflu® (oseltamivir capsules)	30 mg capsules	20 capsules
	45 mg capsules	10 capsules
	75 mg capsules	10 capsules
Tamiflu® (powder for oral suspension, generic)	6 mg/mL oral suspension (60 mL bottles)	3 bottles (180 mL)

2. If the patient requires more than 10 days of prophylaxis for influenza, approve a one-time override for up to a total of 6 weeks of therapy (refer to the table below for the override quantity) between November

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1st and March 31st if, according to the prescriber, there has been a CDC-confirmed outbreak in the patient's community.

Product	Strength	Override Quantity
Tamiflu® (oseltamivir capsules)	30 mg capsules	84 capsules
	45 mg capsules	42 capsules
	75 mg capsules	42 capsules
Tamiflu® (powder for oral suspension, generic)	6 mg/mL oral suspension (60 mL bottles)	9 bottles (540 mL

3. If the patient resides in a long-term care facility and requires more than 10 days of prophylaxis for influenza, approve a one-time override for up to a total of 6 weeks of therapy (refer to the table below for the override quantity), between November 1st and March 31st.

Product	Strength	Override Quantity
Tamiflu® (oseltamivir capsules, generic)	30 mg capsules	84 capsules
	45 mg capsules	42 capsules
	75 mg capsules	42 capsules
Tamiflu® (powder for oral suspension, generic)	6 mg/mL oral suspension (60 mL bottles)	9 bottles (540 mL)

4. If the patient is immunocompromised and requires more than 10 days of prophylaxis for influenza, approve a one-time override for up to a total of 12 weeks of therapy (refer to the table below for the override quantity).

Product	Strength	Override Quantity
Tamiflu® (oseltamivir capsules, generic)	30 mg capsules	168 capsules
	45 mg capsules	84 capsules
	75 mg capsules	84 capsules
Tamiflu® (powder for oral suspension, generic)	6 mg/mL oral suspension (60 mL bottles)	18 bottles (1,080 mL)

Relenza

1. If the patient remains severely ill and requires a longer treatment course, approve an override for an additional course of treatment (20 inhalations [1 box]) between November 1st and March 31st.

2. If the patient requires more than 10 days of prophylaxis for influenza, approve a one-time override for up to a total of 1 month of therapy (up to 60 inhalations [3 boxes]) between November 1st and March 31st if, according to the prescriber, there has been a CDC-confirmed outbreak in the patient's community.

3. If the patient resides in a long-term care facility and requires more than 10 days of prophylaxis for influenza, approve a one-time override for up to a total of 1 month of therapy (up to 60 inhalations [3 boxes]), between November 1st and March 31st.

Xofluza

No overrides recommended.

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REFERENCES

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2. Relenza® for oral inhalation [prescribing information]. Research Triangle Park, NC: GlaxoSmithKline; October 2021.
3. Xofluza® tablets [prescribing information]. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech; November 2020.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2021-2022 influenza antiviral medications: summary for clinicians. Accessed March 14, 2022. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/summary-clinicians.htm.
5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Flu season. Updated September 28, 2021. Accessed March 14, 2022. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season.htm.

CDC – Centers for Disease Control.

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