



STOCK UPDATE

13 August 2009

Tamiflu® (oseltamivir) Information for medical practitioners

Unprecedented world-wide demand for Tamiflu suspension (liquid formulation for children) means that Roche is unable to supply suspension in Australia until further notice. Despite a shortage of Tamiflu suspension, Roche has supplies of Tamiflu 30mg and 45mg capsules to treat paediatric patients over 1 year of age.

Medical practitioners with paediatric patients presenting with influenza should prescribe 30mg or 45mg Tamiflu capsules according to patient weight (treatment dosage: ≤15 kg: 30 mg twice daily; >15-23 kg: 45 mg twice daily; >23-40 kg: 60 mg twice daily; >40 kg: 75 mg twice daily). As previously advised, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has approved the preparation of extemporaneous formulations from 30mg, 45mg and 75mg Tamiflu capsules.

This means that adults, adolescents and children (1 year and older) who are unable to swallow capsules can now have powder from Tamiflu capsules mixed with sweetened food products. Instructions are available by contacting Roche Medical Information Services on 1800 233 950.

Roche continues to have sufficient commercial supply of Tamiflu 30mg, 45mg and 75mg capsules and these strengths are available to hospital and community pharmacies.

Roche is in regular communication with wholesalers and hospital pharmacies about their stock levels and is ensuring Tamiflu stock is dispatched as required.

Enquiries from Health Professionals – Medical Information Service 1800 233 950

Wholesale Stock enquiries – Customer Service 1800 800 766

Media enquiries about Tamiflu can be directed to: Libby Day on 04070 60045

Minimum Product Information

Tamiflu® (oseltamivir)

Indications

Treatment of infections due to influenza A and B viruses in adults and children one year and older. Prevention of influenza in adults and children one year and older.

Dosage

Treatment: Adults and adolescents 75 mg twice daily. Paediatric patients: ≤15 kg: 30 mg twice daily; >15-23 kg: 45 mg twice daily; >23-40 kg: 60 mg twice daily; >40 kg: 75 mg twice daily. Duration of treatment is 5 days. Treatment should be initiated within 48 hours of symptom onset.

Prevention: Adults and adolescents 75 mg daily. Paediatric patients: ≤15 kg: 30 mg once daily; >15-23 kg: 45 mg once daily; >23-40 kg: 60 mg once daily; >40 kg: 75 mg once daily. Duration of therapy is 10 days, beginning within two days of exposure.

Contraindications, Precautions and Adverse Events

TAMIFLU is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to any component of the product. TAMIFLU should not be used in children under 1 year of age as safety and efficacy have not been established. Caution is advised when administering to patients with renal failure and Hereditary Fructose Intolerance. The most common side effects include vomiting, nausea, insomnia, headache, diarrhoea, dizziness and abdominal pain. In children, also epistaxis, ear disorders and conjunctivitis. Rarely, gastrointestinal bleeding, allergic skin reactions and hepatitis. Closely monitor for convulsions and delirium, predominately in children and adolescents (causality not established).*

Please review the complete Product Information before prescribing this medicine. A full copy of the Product Information is available on request from Roche Products Pty Limited.

Roche Products Pty Limited

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Date of Preparation: 4 June 2009.

* Please note change to Product Information.

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