# Are There Any Special Precautions I Need to Take Note Of?

 As with all medications, it is important to inform your doctor if you are pregnant, intending to conceive or breastfeed while taking this medication.

## How Do I Store Oseltamivir?

• Store your medication in a cool, dry place away from heat, moisture and direct sunlight.

If you have any problems with your treatment, please contact your doctor, pharmacist or nurse clinician.

Please keep all medications out of reach of children.



# **PHARMACY**

**Drug Information** 

# Oseltamivir (Tamiflu)



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#### Oseltamivir

- Oseltamivir is used to prevent or treat infections caused by influenza viruses (Type A and B). It is an antiviral that works by preventing the release of influenza viruses.
- Oseltamivir is <u>not a substitute</u> for influenza vaccination.

#### How is Oseltamivir Administered / Taken?

- To treat flu, treatment should begin within the first or second day of the onset of symptoms (e.g. runny nose, fever, cough, sore throat, body aches and fatigue). For adults, adolescents and children weighing more than 40kg, the dose is one 75 mg capsule, to be taken two times daily for five days.
- To prevent flu, treatment should begin within two days of exposure to an infected individual. One 75 mg capsule is to be taken once daily for seven to ten days.
- An adjustment of dosage is required for:
  - o Children weighing less than or equal to 40kg
  - o Children 6 to 12 months of age
  - o Individuals with kidney impairment
- Oseltamivir is not recommended in children less than 6 months of age.
- You may take Oseltamivir with or without food.
- If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, take only the usual dose. Do not take a double dosage of medication to make up for the missed dose.

## Can Oseltamivir be Administered / Taken With Other Medications?

 Please inform your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking other medications, including supplements, traditional or herbal remedies.

# What are the Important Side Effects of Oseltamivir?

• Medications prescribed by your doctor should be beneficial for your condition, even though they may result in some inevitable side effects.

Side Effect	Management
Nausea and vomiting	You may take Oseltamivir with food. Take small frequent meals or suck on sweets.
Dizziness	Get up slowly from a sitting or lying position.
Headache	Have plenty of rest and take painkillers if necessary.
Diarrhoea	Drink more water.  If diarrhoea is severe, stop taking Oseltamivir and speak with your doctor about it.
Neuropsychiatric reactions e.g. confusion/delirium (rare)	Stop taking Oseltamivir and inform your doctor immediately.

If you develop rashes, facial swelling or shortness of breath after taking the medication, you may be allergic to the medication. Please seek medical attention immediately.