

TAMIFLU[®] FACT SHEET FOR PATIENTS AND PARENTS

You have been given TAMIFLU[®] for either treatment or prevention of swine influenza A (H1N1). You can decide whether to take this drug. Taking TAMIFLU[®] may help you or your child recover more quickly if you have swine flu or help keep you or your child from getting sick if you have been exposed to swine influenza A (H1N1) virus.

What is swine influenza?

Swine influenza (swine flu) is a respiratory disease of pigs caused by type A flu viruses. Human cases of swine flu usually happen in people who are around pigs but it's possible for swine flu viruses to spread from person to person also.

What are the symptoms of swine flu in humans?

The symptoms are similar to the symptoms of regular human flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people, especially children, have reported diarrhea and vomiting associated with swine flu. In the past, severe illness (pneumonia and trouble breathing) and deaths have been reported with swine flu infection in people. Like seasonal flu, swine flu may cause worsening of underlying chronic medical conditions.

What is TAMIFLU[®]? *

TAMIFLU[®] (oseltamivir phosphate) is a medicine that is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to prevent and treat influenza.

How much TAMIFLU[®] should my child or I take?

Treatment doses vary by weight (or age, if weight is not known) for children 1 year of age or older. Treatment should start within 2 days of symptoms and should be taken for 5 days.

Body Weight (kg)	Body Weight (lbs)	Dose by Age	Recommended Treatment Dose for 5 Days
>40 kg	>88 lbs	≥ 10 years	75 mg twice daily
>23 kg to 40 kg	>51 lbs to 88 lbs	6-9 years	60 mg twice daily
>15 kg to 23 kg	>33 lbs to 51 lbs	3-5 years	45 mg twice daily
≤15 kg	≤33 lbs	1-2 year	30 mg twice daily
Dosing for infants younger than 1 year not based on weight		6-11 months	25 mg twice daily
		3-5 months	20 mg twice daily
		< 3 months	12 mg twice daily

The bottle comes with a dispenser marked for 30, 45, or 60 mg. For children who weigh more than 40 kg (or 88 lbs) or adults who can't swallow capsules, you will need to measure out a dose of 30 mg plus another dose of 45 mg. For infants less than 1 year old, a different measuring device must be used that will dispense 2 mL (about 25 mg), 1.6 mL (about 20 mg) or 1mL (12 mg).

Dosages for prevention of swine flu are the same for each weight group, but doses are administered only once per day rather than twice. Prevention dosages should be taken for 10 days following close contact with an infected person or during a community outbreak.

* Certain aspects of this emergency use are not part of the approved drug applications. For more information, please refer to www.cdc.gov/swineflu

What if my child or I cannot swallow capsules?

For pediatric patients who cannot swallow capsules, TAMIFLU[®] Oral Suspension is preferred. If the oral suspension is not available, TAMIFLU[®] capsules may be opened and mixed with sweetened liquids such as regular or sugar-free chocolate syrup.

What are the possible benefits of getting TAMIFLU[®]?

If used for treatment, TAMIFLU[®] can benefit by stopping the flu virus from spreading inside the body. This can lead to improved symptoms of flu and quicker recovery. If you have been exposed to someone with the flu, taking TAMIFLU[®] can help keep the virus from making you sick.

What are the possible side effects from getting TAMIFLU[®]?

The most common side effects of TAMIFLU[®] are nausea and vomiting. These are not usually severe and usually happen in the first 2 days of treatment. Taking TAMIFLU[®] with food may reduce the chance of getting these side effects. Other events reported commonly by children treated with TAMIFLU[®] included abdominal pain, nosebleeds, ear problems, and pink eye. Side effects for children less than 1 year of age are not known, because there is little information on TAMIFLU[®] use in this age group.

If you develop an allergic reaction or severe rash, stop taking TAMIFLU[®] and contact your healthcare professional.

Children and teenagers with the flu, may be at an increased risk of seizures, confusion, or abnormal behavior early during their illness. These events may occur shortly after beginning TAMIFLU[®] or may occur even when flu is not treated. These events are uncommon but may result in accidental injury to the patient. Therefore, children should be observed for signs of unusual behavior and a healthcare professional should be contacted immediately if the patient shows any signs of unusual behavior.

Is there an alternative treatment?

Yes. At this time, CDC recommends the use of TAMIFLU[®] or RELENZA[®] for the treatment and/or prevention of infection with swine flu. Currently, there is no vaccine licensed to prevent swine influenza A (H1N1). Since this swine flu virus is very different from other viruses, vaccines for human seasonal flu would not provide protection from swine flu.

What if I decide not to treat my child with TAMIFLU[®]?

It is your choice whether you or your child are treated with TAMIFLU[®]. You can decide not to get it or stop it any time. It will not change your regular medical care.

How do I report side effects with TAMIFLU[®]?

Call your healthcare provider if your child experience side effects that bother you or that do not go away. Report side effects to **FDA MedWatch** at www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

How can I learn more?

If you have questions about your treatment, please refer to www.cdc.gov/swineflu.