



**Yamhill County**  
**Health and Human Services**  
**Public Health**

# ALERT

**COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO  
Health Care Providers**

To: Health Care Providers in Yamhill County

From: Yamhill County Public Health

Date: **12/02/2022**

Regarding: **Oseltamivir local shortages and options when oral suspension is not available**

Phone number for follow-up: **(503) 434-7483**



**State of Oregon**  
Health Alert Network

Influenza activity in Oregon is increasing rapidly and will further strain hospital capacity. Influenza antiviral therapy (e.g., oseltamivir) is recommended for all individuals with suspected or confirmed influenza who are at-risk for severe infection—including children < 5 years, the elderly, pregnant women and individuals with underlying medical conditions. It is also recommended for all individuals experiencing progressive disease. While influenza antiviral therapy is most effective when initiated within the first 48 hours of symptom onset, it should also be offered to at-risk patients who present with influenza-like illness beyond this timeframe.

Local shortages of oseltamivir have been reported in Oregon, however, nationally supplies remain available. All pharmacies should increase oseltamivir stock now.

For patients who are unable to swallow capsules, oseltamivir oral suspension is the preferred formulation. If oral suspension is not available, oral capsules may be used by opening the capsule and mixing with sweetened liquids such as regular or sugar-free chocolate syrup, corn syrup, or light brown sugar dissolved in water. If neither the oral suspension nor the age-appropriate strengths of oseltamivir capsules to mix with sweetened liquids are available, then a pharmacist can prepare an emergency supply of oral suspension from 75 mg capsules using instructions in the package insert.

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**Unless otherwise noted, feel free to share this HAN notification with:**

- **Others within your organization.**
- **Professionals within your health, preparedness, and response affiliations.**

**Oregon 24/7 disease reporting: 971-673-1111**

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