

Recommendations for Oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) Use for Prevention of Influenza in Staff During Influenza Outbreaks

Well Staff

Immunized (Influenza)

Received influenza vaccine
MORE THAN 14 days ago

- No prophylaxis recommended

Note:

- During influenza outbreaks caused by influenza strains that are not well matched by the vaccine, prophylaxis is recommended for all staff, regardless of vaccination status

Received influenza vaccine
LESS THAN 14 days ago

- Prophylaxis for 2 weeks after vaccination, or until the outbreak is declared over, whichever is shorter

Note:

- It takes 2 weeks to develop antibodies to the influenza virus after receiving the influenza vaccine

Not Immunized (Influenza)

- Prophylaxis for the duration of the outbreak

Note:

- It is reasonable to allow unvaccinated staff to work with residents or clients as soon as they start antiviral prophylaxis.
- Unless there is a contraindication, consenting staff should also immediately be offered immunization against influenza with the current seasonal influenza vaccine

- Antiviral prescriptions for staff that work in the facility should be completed by their healthcare provider. Staff who choose to obtain a prescription for antiviral medication (for prophylaxis or treatment) through their healthcare provider are responsible for arranging and covering the cost of the prescription.
- If staff refuse influenza vaccination and Tamiflu in an influenza outbreak, it is recommended that staff be excluded from work for the duration of the outbreak
- Ill staff must be excluded from work for 5 days or until symptom-free, whichever is sooner