

## Louth: Antimicrobial Guidelines - Louth Hospitals: Antimicrobial Guidelines: Influenza (Flu) Prophylaxis

Indication
Influenza (Flu) Prophylaxis
First Line Antimicrobials
<p>ALWAYS refer to the latest national influenza management algorithm which is update regularly and available at <a href="http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/influenza/seasonalinfluenza/guidance/">http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/influenza/seasonalinfluenza/guidance/</a></p> <p>Oseltamivir chemoprophylaxis may be prescribed when an individual in a defined "at-risk" group (listed below) is exposed to a <b>confirmed case</b> of influenza infection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age <math>\geq</math> 65 years</li> <li>• Severe obesity (BMI <math>\geq</math> 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)</li> <li>• Chronic respiratory, heart, kidney, liver or neurological disease, diabetes mellitus, haemoglobinopathy</li> <li>• Immunosuppression</li> <li>• Pregnancy and up to 2 weeks post-partum</li> <li>• LTC residents</li> <li>• Start chemoprophylaxis within 48 hours of the patient's most recent exposure to a confirmed case of influenza</li> <li>• If duration since last exposure &gt; 48 hours, discuss chemoprophylaxis with Consultant Microbiologist.</li> </ul> <p><b>Oseltamivir 75mg once daily PO</b></p>
Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous influenza vaccination does not eradicate the risk of influenza infection.</li> <li>• Influenza typically circulates in the Northern Hemisphere between October and May. Latest information regarding national influenza activity is available at: <a href="http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/influenza/seasonalinfluenza/surveillance/">http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/influenza/seasonalinfluenza/surveillance/</a></li> <li>• Refer to OLOL IPCT Guidelines regarding need for isolation.</li> </ul>
Duration of Prophylaxis
10 days