

Provider Notice

The information, regarding Tamiflu supply and compounded suspension and described below, has been provided to DOM. Cherry syrup and Ora-Sweet vehicles have been opened to Pharmacy Point of Sale (POS) to facilitate compounding for pediatric beneficiaries. If you encounter problems processing compounded Tamiflu suspension claims, please contact Health Information Designs (HID) at 1-800-355-0486.

A recent Tamiflu Supply Letter put out by Roche on September 4, 2009 states that supplies of the Tamiflu for Oral Suspension as well as Tamiflu 30 mg and Tamiflu 45mg capsules are currently limited. Additional supplies for the oral suspension will be made available in November/December, and 30/45 mg capsules will be available in late September.

For those who cannot swallow capsules, the 75mg capsules (which Roche has prioritized for production) can be opened and the contents mixed with food for immediate administration. If suspension is deemed the most appropriate dosage form, pharmacists may compound a suspension from 75 mg Tamiflu capsules using either of two vehicles: Cherry Syrup (Humco) or Ora-Sweet SF (sugar-free).

Instructions for pharmacists can be found on the Roche Tamiflu website (<http://www.tamiflu.com/hcp/dosing/extprep.aspx>).

PROVIDER NOTICE
**Antiviral Medications for H1N1 for Pediatric
Medicaid Beneficiaries**

Effective on September 1, 2009, when a pediatric Medicaid beneficiary has exhausted his/her monthly limit (5 drugs monthly of which no more than 2 may be brand without medical necessity prior authorization), there will be an automatic prior authorization for beneficiaries up to 21 years of age.

*If you encounter problems processing claims for beneficiaries under the age of 21 years of age for antiviral medications, please contact HID, or Health Information Designs, at 1-800-355-0486 for a telephone override. **Be advised that this option is only for Tamiflu (or another antiviral used to treat H1N1) for pediatric Medicaid beneficiaries up to 21 years of age.***

Antiviral prescription quantity limits reflect the CDC's antiviral dosing recommendations located at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations.htm#C>. If larger doses or duration of therapy is required, contact HID at 1-800-355-0486.

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BILLING COMPOUNDED TAMIFLU

MS Medicaid does not typically cover compounded claims. Due to the national shortage for the suspension and in order to remove access and barrier issues for our **pediatric** beneficiaries, we have developed a workaround for our **pediatric** beneficiaries for compounded Tamiflu suspension.

Instructions for compounding the suspension can be found on the Roche Tamiflu website at <http://www.tamiflu.com/hcp/dosing/extprep.aspx>.

In order for a compound to pay the pharmacist must:

1. Run a claim for the Tamiflu capsules used to make the compound
2. Run a claim for the suspending vehicle used to make the compound
3. Run a 'dummy' claim for the actual OSELTAMIVIR 12mg/ml solution in order to give the patient instructions on how to use the medication dispensed.

Example:

For a Tamiflu suspension take ½ teaspoonful BID x 5days prescription the pharmacist should run:

- #4 Tamiflu 75mg
- a 25cc of vehicle
- a dummy script for labeling purposes for the 25cc oseltamivir 12mg/ml solution