



Thomas Newton, MPP,
REHS

Chester J. Culver
Governor

Patty Judge
Lt. Governor

Memorandum

To: Local Public Health Agency Administrators

From: Patricia Quinlisk, MD, MPH
Medical Director/State Epidemiologist
Iowa Department of Public Health

Date: 11/20/2009

Re: Use of Tamiflu[®] for Oral Suspension from the State Stockpile

Currently there is a national shortage of commercially available Tamiflu[®] for Oral Suspension and the shortage is anticipated to continue into January 2010. Because of this shortage, IDPH will be releasing its stockpile of Tamiflu[®] for Oral Suspension. Tamiflu[®] for Oral Suspension should be dispensed to any individual (regardless of their insured status) if they meet the current CDC recommendations for antiviral usage **and** are two years of age or younger. The current CDC recommendations for antiviral usage can be located at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations.htm.

Individuals who are over two years of age and who cannot swallow the capsule form of Tamiflu[®] can have a suspension compounded by a pharmacist or can mix the capsule with thick and sweet liquids. Directions for compounding the capsules by a pharmacist can be found at www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/InformationbyDrugClass/ucm188629.htm. Information on opening and mixing Tamiflu[®] capsules with liquids by parents can be found at www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/antivirals/mixing_tamiflu_ga.htm.

Additional questions regarding the Tamiflu[®] for Oral Suspension can be directed to the Health Care Provider's call center at 1-877-386-9103.