

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

Indication
Influenza (Flu) Prophylaxis
First Line Antimicrobials
ALWAYS refer to the latest national influenza management algorithm which is update regularly and available at http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/influenza/seasonalinfluenza/guidance/
Oseltamivir chemoprophylaxis may be prescribed when an individual in a defined "at-risk" group (listed below) is exposed to a confirmed case of influenza infection:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age \geq 65 years• Severe obesity (BMI \geq 40 kg/m²)• Chronic respiratory, heart, kidney, liver or neurological disease, diabetes mellitus, haemoglobinopathy• Immunosuppression• Pregnancy and up to 2 weeks post-partum• LTC residents• Start chemoprophylaxis within 48 hours of the patient's most recent exposure to a confirmed case of influenza• If duration since last exposure > 48 hours, discuss chemoprophylaxis with Consultant Microbiologist.
Oseltamivir 75mg once daily PO
Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Previous influenza vaccination does not eradicate the risk of influenza infection.• Influenza typically circulates in the Northern Hemisphere between October and May. Latest information regarding national influenza activity is available at: http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/influenza/seasonalinfluenza/surveillance/• Refer to OLOL IPCT Guidelines regarding need for isolation.
Duration of Prophylaxis
10 days