



The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association

200 TACHE AVE. • WINNIPEG, MB • R2H 1A7 • PHONE (204) 233-1411 • FAX (204) 237-3468

E-Mail info@mpha.mb.ca



June 12, 2009

TO: PHARMACY MANAGERS AND PHARMACISTS

RE: Second Request for Community Pharmacies to Acquire Oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) for Stock

Please be advised that Manitoba continues to experience a higher than normal number of cases of influenza like illness (ILI). Patients may still present to local community pharmacies with prescriptions for antivirals. It has become evident however, that many community pharmacies are not stocking or replenishing antivirals.

Manitoba Health and Healthy Living (MHHL) and the MPhA have been informed that stock of Tamiflu® is available from wholesalers. Therefore, as part of the Provincial pandemic response, MHHL is requesting that every community pharmacy maintain a minimum stock of 5 packs of Tamiflu® 75mg in order to assure that prescriptions can be filled for patients in a timely manner within the community.

First Nation Inuit Health (FNIH) has recently made changes to NIHB to allow full coverage for antiviral prescriptions of Tamiflu® and Relenza®.

As future situations develop MHHL and MPhA may be calling upon pharmacies to provide information about the availability and use of Tamiflu®.

If there are any issues with your ability to procure stock through your regular ordering processes please contact the wholesaler(s) to identify the issue.

Your immediate assistance in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Susan Lessard-Friesen
Assistant Registrar

Inga Hossack
Inventory Management Specialist, Manitoba Health and Healthy Living