

August 11, 2009

Tamiflu - Part II EDS Coverage for the Pharmacare and Employment and Income Assistance Drug Plans

Effective Tuesday August 18, 2009 the Manitoba Specified Drug Regulation has been amended to include Tamiflu 30, 45 and 75 mg capsules and 12 mg/mL oral suspension as a Part II benefit with the following criteria.

- Patient shows Influenza Like Illness and one or more of the following risk factors**
 - Chronic Diseases (lung including asthma, heart, kidney, central nervous system including neuromuscular diseases, endocrine system including diabetes mellitus);
 - Immune disorders or immunosuppression (such as cancer patients on treatment, autoimmune diseases or rheumatologic diseases on TNF inhibitors or corticosteroids, transplant patients, HIV infection);
 - Pregnancy
 - “Lifestyle” conditions (i.e. smoking, substance abuse, alcoholism, homelessness);
 - Obesity and/or malnutrition;
 - Persons of aboriginal ancestry

- Severe Respiratory Illness (SRI)**

Note : For treatment – not for prevention.
For Tamiflu to be effective it should be administered as early as possible and preferentially within 48 hours of onset of illness.

Clinicians are directed to review the *Manitoba Interim Guidance for Clinicians in Ambulatory Care Settings - Novel Influenza A (H1N1)*
http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/sri/docs/interim_guidance_clinicians_ambulatory.pdf