

# Health **FAX**

## Availability of Pharmacy-compounded Oseltamivir Oral Suspension

Attention: **Pharmacists, Hospital Pharmacies, Infection Control Practitioners**  
Date: October 23, 2009

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care are aware there is a shortage of oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) oral suspension across the province. As the H1N1 Influenza A virus activity is increasing, pharmacists will encounter an increased demand for oseltamivir oral suspensions.

**Until oseltamivir oral suspension is more readily available, the 75 mg oseltamivir capsules can be used to create a pharmacy-compounded oral suspension, as per the Health Canada-approved product monograph, for use among pediatric populations.**

The product monograph is available in each product package and at <http://www.rochecanada.com>. Follow the links from *Our Products* → *Product Information* → *Tamiflu* → *Health Professional Information* or go directly to:

[http://www.rochecanada.com/gear/glossary/servlet/staticfilesServlet?type=data&communityId=re753001&id=static/attachedfile/re7300002/re77300002/AttachedFile\\_09761.pdf](http://www.rochecanada.com/gear/glossary/servlet/staticfilesServlet?type=data&communityId=re753001&id=static/attachedfile/re7300002/re77300002/AttachedFile_09761.pdf)

For your reference please refer to the related sections from the product monograph.

Page 14	Recommended Dose – Treatment of Influenza.
Page 16	Emergency Compounding of an Oral Suspension from Capsules
Page 17	Volume of Oral Suspension Based upon Patient's Weight
Page 18	Number of Capsules and Amount of Vehicle
Page 19	Storage of Pharmacy-Compounded Suspension
	Dosing Chart for Pharmacy-Compounded Suspension

Please note that 30 mg and 45 mg oseltamivir capsules may also be available from your supplier. Page 14 of the product monograph outlines the mixing of the capsules with a sweetened liquid for administration to pediatric clients.

Additional information about pharmacy-compounded oral suspension can be obtained via the Roche Canada Drug Information department at 1-888-762-4388.