

Supply of antivirals- information for prescribers. Issue 1 (August 2017)

Recommendation

The process to obtain antiviral for patients on the NHS has changed from 1st July 2017
Route of supply differs between the following two periods

- **In season period** – defined by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) letter issued each year- usually 1st September to 31st March (but may vary).
- **Out of season period** defined as any period outside the period defined by the CMO letter- usually 1st April to 31st August but may vary).

The information below describes the route for prescribers to follow once they have prescribed antivirals to ensure a prompt supply

This service has been set up at short notice and updates to this information will be issued.

In season

During the ‘**in season**’ period, the need for assessing patient for antivirals is part of the GMS contract. If antivirals are required, they can be supplied from any community pharmacy through the FP10 route but the prescription must

Be issued in line with Selected List Scheme (SLS) criteria

Must contain the SLS designation.

The SLS criteria are set out in Appendix1

Out of season

During the ‘**out of season**’ period, assessment of patients for the need for antivirals is not part of the GMS contract. Please contact your CCGs primary care team for details of the Local Enhanced Service (LES) for assessment

Following assessment and if antivirals are required, a Patient Specific Direction (PSD) should be issued but can only be supplied from the CCGs designated pharmacy.

Summary of supply options		
Season	How can supply be authorised?	Where can this be dispensed?
In season	On an FP10 but must be in line with SLS criteria and be annotated as such	Any community pharmacy
Out of season	On a Patient Specific Direction (PSD) – see below for details	CCGs designated pharmacy only – see below for details

Frequently asked question (FAQs)

Where is the CCGs designated pharmacy?

The designated pharmacy for east Kent is **Paydens Pharmacy, Canada Road, Deal, CT14 7EQ**

What constitutes a PSD?

An FP10 marked as ‘convenient stationery’

A private prescription which will be issued by the designated pharmacy at no charge

A proforma from NHSE is provided in appendix2 and can be used for more than one patient with the same strength and dose.

What are the contact details for the pharmacy?

Telephone	01304 373066
Email	nhspharmacy.paydenslt.paydensltfpp49@nhs.net
On call	07810 372038
Key staff and their deputy for management of antiviral stock	Pharmacist Lead dispenser

How can PSDs be sent to the pharmacy?

The pharmacy is able to accept PSDs by email through their nhs.net account
The prescriptions can be physically transported to the pharmacy if sending by nhs.net email is not possible. The cost is covered in the assessment LES

Why does the LES specify I contact the pharmacy before I visit a home for assessment?

Antivirals can only be supplied out of season in line with the assessment and supply criteria
Supply is only allowed following direction from Public Health England Centre Health Protection Team (PHE Centre HPT) and the pharmacy requires assurance that supply is in line with this
The likelihood of having to supply antivirals is very low during the out of season period. The pharmacy is only likely to use this process once or twice in any 12 month period. If the pharmacy is notified before you visit a home for assessment, the pharmacy can review their process and be ready to promptly action any request

What are the opening hours of the pharmacy?

The designated pharmacy is open 7am to 10pm Monday to Saturday and 8am to 6pm Sunday.

What is the arrangement for bank holidays?

Cover is provided by 'on-call' support- see contact details above. Please note, the Easter and August bank holidays may or may not fall into the out of season period as dependent on date of issue of the CMO letter. A summary of the bank holidays and cover provided is shown in Appendix 3

How will the antivirals be delivered to the care home?

The pharmacy contract requires delivery of antivirals to the relevant care home in a manner which provides an audit trail of delivery and receipt
The pharmacy will provide Medicines Administration Record (MAR) charts populated with patient details for care home staff to administer

How promptly will the antivirals be delivered?

The pharmacy must dispatch antivirals on the same working day the request is received AND within four hours of receipt of the request. However, requests received within 2 hours of the usual pharmacy closing time will be dispatched the following day within two hours after the opening hour

Can I use the on call number for other medication required urgently

No, any requests for other medication are outside the specified contract and a supply cannot be made

Should I send PSDs to the designated pharmacy during the 'in season' period?

No, Please issue a prescription under SLS criteria, annotate with SLS and this can be dispensed at the patient's preferred pharmacy

Can patients 'walk in' to the designated pharmacy?

No antivirals in the out of season period will only be required for an institution where the patients or staff are at risk. Public Health England Centre Health Protection Team (PHE Centre HPT) considers the risk assessment for the verified ILI outbreak and makes a recommendation as to whether antivirals are required for the outbreak response. All residents and staff will therefore be familiar with the location of the institution and should obtain supplies from there

What stock is held at the pharmacy?

Medication	Dose	Stock level to be held
Tamiflu	75mg	60
Tamiflu	2 x 30mg	None
Tamiflu	45mg	10
Tamiflu	30mg	80
Relenza	5mg blisters	5
Oseltamivir Solution	15mg / 1ml	None
Oseltamivir Solution	12mg / 1ml	None

Why do I need to provide details of care home staff to the pharmacy?

The pharmacy may be delivering to a care home with which they are not familiar and need to be able to contact the care home staff in the event of queries or unexpected circumstances
The details in the assessment contract have been designed as a check list so all information is contained in one place

Our clinical system will not allow 'convenient stationery' to be added to FP10

The designated pharmacy has been asked to treat any FP10s received as per the assessment specification as convenient stationery

If I issue an FP10 as convenient stationery is the cost allocated to my prescribing budget

No the pharmacy will treat all prescriptions supplied under this scheme as private prescriptions

Can the proforma be adapted to provide a better fit with our clinical system?

Yes, please share with the Medicine Management team (MMT) and we will liaise with the pharmacy so they include in their portfolio of acceptable documents for PSD

It is the 'out of season' period; I have just issued FP10 as convenient stationery to find the CMO letter has been issued

The designated pharmacy has been asked to process for up to two days after CMO letter has been issued to avoid delay in treatment

It is the 'in season' period; I have just issued FP10 to find the CMO letter has been issued and we are out of season

Advice has been requested from the NHSBSA.

I have a further query comment about the process

Please contact your CCGs Medicine Management team or use the contact details in the footer of this document

Why has this process been put in place?

The process has been instigated at the direction of the Public Health England Centre Health Protection Team if you require an

Appendix 1

Selected List Scheme (SLS) criteria

http://www.drugtariff.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/#/00465833-DB_1/DB00465278/In England:

Drug	Patient	Purpose
Oseltamivir (Tamflu)	(1)	Treatment of influenza
	(1A)	Prophylaxis of influenza
Oseltamivir (Tamflu)	(1)	Treatment of influenza
	(2A)	Prophylaxis of influenza
Zanamivir (Relenza)	(1)	Treatment of influenza
	(2)	Prophylaxis or treatment of influenza

Appendix 2: Draft PSD template

Patient Specific Direction (PSD)

Draft Template PSD

<Prescriber Address>

FOR URGENT ATTENTION

<Insert Date>

< Pharmacy Address>

Pharmacy email Address

Please arrange for the supply of:

<Insert influenza antiviral name>

For the following patients:

<Patient name>

<DOB>

<Dosage>

<Duration>

These medicines are required as part of the urgent management of an influenza outbreak at:

<Insert care home name and address>

As declared by the PHE Centre Health Protection Team:

<Insert PHE Centre details>

This PSD is signed by

<Insert prescriber name>

<Registration number>

Contact details

Appendix 3

Bank Holiday	Covered required under pharmacy specification	Comment
Christmas Day	No	In season period so outside of the pharmacy contract
Boxing Day	No	
New Year day	No	
Good Friday	Dependent on date of CMO letter	Cover provided by 'on-call' support
Easter Sunday*	Dependent on date of CMO letter	
Easter Monday	Dependent on date of CMO letter	
May Day	Yes	
End of May	Yes	
August bank holiday	Dependent on date of CMO letter	

*Not a bank holiday but traditionally retail premises are closed