

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

DRUG CLASS	INFLUENZA TREATMENT & PREVENTION (NEURAMINIDASE INHIBITORS)
BRAND NAME (generic)	<p style="text-align: center;">RELENZA (zanamivir)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TAMIFLU (oseltamivir)</p>
Status: CVS Caremark Criteria	
Type: Post Limit Prior Authorization	

POLICY

FDA APPROVED INDICATIONS

Relenza

Treatment of Influenza

Relenza (zanamivir) inhalation powder is indicated for treatment of uncomplicated acute illness due to influenza A and B virus in adults and pediatric patients aged 7 years and older who have been symptomatic for no more than 2 days.

Prophylaxis of Influenza

Relenza is indicated for prophylaxis of influenza in adults and pediatric patients aged 5 years and older.

Important Limitations on Use of Relenza

Relenza is not recommended for treatment or prophylaxis of influenza in individuals with underlying airways disease (such as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) due to risk of serious bronchospasm.

Relenza has not been proven effective for treatment of influenza in individuals with underlying airways disease.

Relenza has not been proven effective for prophylaxis of influenza in the nursing home setting. Relenza is not a substitute for early influenza vaccination on an annual basis as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control's Immunization Practices Advisory Committee.

Influenza viruses change over time. Emergence of resistance mutations could decrease drug effectiveness. Other factors (for example, changes in viral virulence) might also diminish clinical benefit of antiviral drugs. Prescribers should consider available information on influenza drug susceptibility patterns and treatment effects when deciding whether to use Relenza.

There is no evidence for efficacy of zanamivir in any illness caused by agents other than influenza virus A and B. Patients should be advised that the use of Relenza for treatment of influenza has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of influenza to others.

Tamiflu

Treatment of Influenza

Influenza Treatment and Prevention Post Limit Policy 111-J 12-2017 .doc

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Tamiflu is indicated for treatment of acute, uncomplicated illness due to influenza A and B infection in patients 2 weeks of age and older who have been symptomatic for no more than 48 hours.

Prophylaxis of Influenza

Tamiflu is indicated for the prophylaxis of influenza A and B in patients 1 year and older.

Limitations of Use

Tamiflu is not a substitute for early influenza vaccination on an annual basis as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Influenza viruses change over time. Emergence of resistance substitutions could decrease drug effectiveness. Other factors (for example, changes in viral virulence) might also diminish clinical benefit of antiviral drugs. Prescribers should consider available information on influenza drug susceptibility patterns and treatment effects when deciding whether to use Tamiflu.

Tamiflu is not recommended for patients with end-stage renal disease not undergoing dialysis.

Compendial Uses

Prophylaxis of influenza A or B viral infection in patients 3 months to 1 year of age if necessary after exposure to another person with influenza³⁻⁹

COVERAGE CRITERIA

The requested drug will be covered with prior authorization when the following criteria are met:

- The requested drug is being prescribed for the prophylaxis (prevention) or the treatment of influenza A or B viral infection
OR
- If the request is for Relenza (zanamivir), prophylaxis of influenza A or B viral infection in a patient 5 years of age or older who has been exposed to a community outbreak
OR
- If the request is for Oseltamivir (Tamiflu), prophylaxis of influenza A or B viral infection in a patient 3 months of age or older who has been exposed to a community outbreak

<u>POST LIMIT QUANTITY</u>			
Medication	Strength	Additional Limit for 3 Months Community Prophylaxis	Additional Limit for 3 Months
Relenza (zanamivir)	5-mg blister per inhalation	60 blisters	20 blisters
Tamiflu (oseltamivir)	6 mg/mL suspension	540 mL patient with immune deficiencies 1080 mL	180 mL
	30 mg per capsule	84 capsules patient with immune deficiencies 168 capsules	20 capsules
	45 mg per capsule	42 capsules patient with immune deficiencies 84 capsules	10 capsules
	75 mg per capsule	42 capsules patient with immune deficiencies 84 capsules	10 capsules

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5. Seasonal Influenza (Flu) Influenza - Flu Basics. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2016-2017. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/index.htm>. Accessed December 2017.
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