### PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DRUG CLASS</th>
<th>INFLUENZA TREATMENT &amp; PREVENTION (NEURAMINIDASE INHIBITORS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BRAND NAME</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(generic)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELENZA</td>
<td>(zanamivir)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAMIFLU</td>
<td>(oseltamivir)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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
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 influenza\(^3-9\)

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**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

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**POST LIMIT QUANTITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medication</th>
<th>Strength</th>
<th>Additional Limit for 3 Months Community Prophylaxis</th>
<th>Additional Limit for 3 Months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relenza (zanamivir)</td>
<td>5-mg blister per inhalation</td>
<td>60 blisters</td>
<td>20 blisters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamiflu (oseltamivir)</td>
<td>6 mg/mL suspension</td>
<td>540 mL patient with immune deficiencies 1080 mL</td>
<td>180 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30 mg per capsule</td>
<td>84 capsules patient with immune deficiencies 168 capsules</td>
<td>20 capsules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45 mg per capsule</td>
<td>42 capsules patient with immune deficiencies 84 capsules</td>
<td>10 capsules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75 mg per capsule</td>
<td>42 capsules patient with immune deficiencies 84 capsules</td>
<td>10 capsules</td>
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**REFERENCES**


