



Frequently asked questions about Tamiflu (also known as oseltamivir)

From the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency

What is Tamiflu used for? Tamiflu is for treating adults, **adolescents, and children 1 year of age and older** with the flu whose flu symptoms started within the last day or two. Tamiflu is also used to reduce the chance of getting the flu in people aged 1 year and older who have a higher chance of getting the flu because they spend time with someone who has the flu. Tamiflu can also reduce the chance of getting the flu if there is a flu outbreak in the community.

General Precautions with Tamiflu:

- Tamiflu has not been shown to treat flu-like illnesses caused by any virus other than influenza A and B
- Other kinds of infections can appear like influenza or occur along with influenza, and need different types of treatment. Contact your health care provider if you feel worse or develop new symptoms during or after treatment, or if your influenza symptoms do not start to get better.
- Taking Tamiflu should not affect your decision to have an annual flu shot.
- The safety and efficacy of repeated courses of treatment have not been established.
- **Tamiflu is not indicated for treatment or prevention of the flu in patients less than 1 year of age.**

What should I tell my doctor or health care provider?

Tell your doctor or health care provider if you:

- are taking any other medications
- have any type of kidney disease
- are trying to become pregnant, are already pregnant, or are breast-feeding

What are some possible side effects of Tamiflu? *(This is not a complete list of side effects reported with Tamiflu. Your health care provider can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects.)*

- nausea
- vomiting
- diarrhea
- bronchitis
- stomach pain
- dizziness
- headache

For more information about the flu, precautions, good hygiene and other health information for you and your family, visit us on the web at:

www.bhsj.org

Or contact us at any of our 4 office locations at:

Coldwater
517-279-9561 x 143

Hillsdale
517-437-7395 x 107

Sturgis
269-659-4013 x 109

Three Rivers
269-273-2161 x 241