PREPARATION FOR THE USE OF OSELTAMIVIR

Based on recommendations from the National Committee on Immunization (NACI), amantadine is NO LONGER recommended to prevent cases of influenza among residents during an influenza outbreak in a long term care facility.

Oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) is the recommended medication for prophylaxis against seasonal influenza in the event of a seasonal influenza outbreak in a long term care facility. The standard prophylactic dose of oseltamivir for those over age 65 is 75 mg PO once daily. For individuals with severe renal insufficiency, the dose of oseltamivir should be established based on a calculated (estimated) creatinine clearance. Please refer to the Manitoba Health protocol for the use of oseltamivir prophylaxis for further information.

Determining the need for antiviral prophylaxis, to contain the spread of pH1N1 influenza in a PCH outbreak will require consultation with the Medical Officer of Health (MOH). As experience has shown that PCH outbreaks due to pH1N1 influenza may be associated with limited spread, antiviral prophylaxis may not be necessary.

For any residents with known or suspected renal insufficiency, the following information will need to be available prior to an influenza outbreak:

- AGE
- CURRENT WEIGHT (Kg)
- RECENT SERUM CREATININE (umol/L)
- Serum creatinine levels should be done on an annual basis (for residents with known or suspected renal insufficiency).

Using the above information, creatinine clearance can be calculated as per the following formula.

Calculated Creatinine Clearance

\[
\text{Male: } \text{CrCl mL/min} = \frac{(140 - \text{age}) \times \text{weight (kg)}}{\text{serum creatinine (umol/L)} \times 0.81} \\
\text{Female: } \text{CrCl mL/min} = 0.85 \times \frac{(140 - \text{age}) \times \text{weight (kg)}}{\text{serum creatinine (umol/L)} \times 0.81}
\]

Note: Your pharmacy may be able to provide this service for you. If not, if you have computer resources, the above calculation can be automated on a spreadsheet or other program. With appropriate planning this calculation can be performed on all residents in September or October, with predetermined doses of oseltamivir calculated well before an influenza outbreak occurs.

Information accompanying letter to PCH Medical Director – For Information Only