

PHARMACY QI

Practical Tips for Quality Improvement

September 2019

3 Mainstays for Better Influenza Outbreak Preparedness



Education

Ensure staff is aware of Influenza Preparedness Policy and Procedure, including steps to be followed pre, during, and post outbreak.

Your Consultant Pharmacist can assist with providing educational in-services.



Communication

Communicate to your Pharmacy Manager:

1. When outbreak is suspected and swabs are taken by Public Health.
2. When outbreak is confirmed.
3. When outbreak is declared over.



Timeliness

Timeliness of communication at the time of outbreak is key to ensure timely delivery by pharmacy of Tamiflu®/Oseltamivir* required for protection and/or treatment of residents and staff.

*Tamiflu®/Oseltamivir is most effective when administered within 48 hours of onset of influenza symptoms.

Reference:

Medical Pharmacies Policy and Procedure Manual, Policy 10-4 Antiviral Use in Influenza - Tamiflu®/Oseltamivir.