



February 7, 2011

Compounding directions for Tamiflu[®] for Oral Suspension shortage

Pharmaceutical manufacturer Roche is currently experiencing a shortage of the commercially available Tamiflu[®] for Oral Suspension.

During this shortage, Roche is providing pharmacy compounding directions at <http://www.tamiflu.com/hcp/dosing/extprep.aspx> for pharmacies that compound their own Tamiflu suspension.

Roche's compounding directions result in a different concentration of Tamiflu suspension, 15mg/ml, when compared to the commercially available product, 12mg/ml. It is important to clarify the physician's directions in the prescription when preparing the compound to ensure that the finished product and the product's labeling provide the appropriate milligram and milliliter dose.

The Roche directions suggest preparing overfill of 10ml per prescription. This will require using more capsules and diluent than needed for a particular course of therapy based on patient weight. **Please be sure to inform the patients that their prescription contains overfill and instruct them to throw any overage once the 10 doses are given.**

As a reminder, Prime requires pharmacies to submit the compound quantity that represents the total quantity of the compounded medication dispensed. The submitted price must be based on the AWP of all ingredients. For example:

Script:

Tamiflu 12mg/ml Powder for Oral Suspension

Give one teaspoonful po BID for 5 days

Tamiflu compound 15mg/ml--- Compound AWP \$104.55

Ingredients	Quantity	Price
Tamiflu 75mg capsules NDC 00004-0800-85	#10	AWP 10.252
Ora-Sweet SF NDC 00574-0302-16	48ml	AWP 0.04229

Label:

Take 4ml po BID for 5 days

Please discard unused portion after 10 doses

Prime will be monitoring Tamiflu compounded claims for clinical and cost appropriateness of the dispensed prescriptions.

If you have questions, please call the Prime Contact Center at 800-821-4795

Thank you,

Prime Therapeutics Pharmacy Audit