

**Summary of UKHSA influenza guideline – adults 2022 - see full [UKHSA guideline](#)**

**Treatment of influenza**

**If suspecting influenza** – see algorithm

Consider treatment of suspected/confirmed cases if

- 1) Complicated influenza i.e. Hospital admission or
- 2) uncomplicated influenza - patients at the risk group – see below definition\*

**Complicated influenza**

Influenza requiring hospital admission and/or with symptoms and signs of lower respiratory tract infection (hypoxaemia, dyspnoea, lung infiltrate), central nervous system involvement and/or a significant exacerbation of an underlying medical condition.

**Uncomplicated influenza**

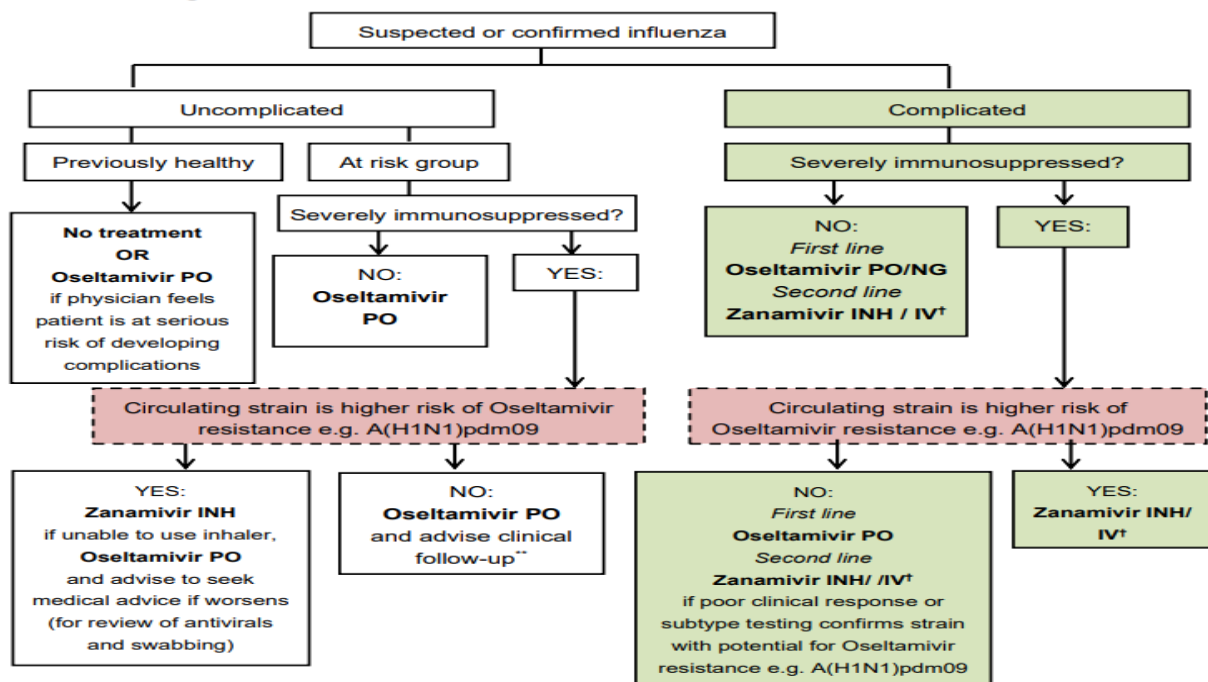
Influenza presenting with fever, coryza, generalised symptoms (headache, malaise, myalgia, arthralgia) and sometimes gastrointestinal symptoms, but without any features of complicated influenza.

**\*Risk Group for complicated influenza**

- neurological, hepatic, renal, pulmonary and chronic cardiac disease
- diabetes mellitus
- severe immunosuppression – see definition – page 5
- age over 65 years
- pregnancy (including up to 2 weeks post-partum)
- children under 6 months of age
- morbid obesity (BMI ≥40)

**Patients with suspected influenza**

**Prescribing antivirals for treatment of influenza**



**Dosing for treatment of influenza**

**Osetamivir**

Adults (over 40kg) within 48hours of onset (unless immunocompromised-see page 5)

Osetamivir 75mg po/NG BD for 5 days

If ≤40kg – reduce dose to 60mg BD for 5 days

Dosing of **oseltamivir** with Renal impairment

<b>CrCl (mL/min)*</b>	<b>Treatment oseltamivir</b>	<b>Duration</b>
<b>&gt;60</b>	75mg** PO BD	5 Days (10 days if immunocompromised)
<b>31-60</b>	30mg PO BD	5 Days (10 days if immunocompromised)
<b>11-30</b>	30mg PO OD	5 Days (10 days if immunocompromised)
<b>≤10</b>	30mg PO ONCE ONLY	ONCE ONLY

\*If Crcl is not available - eGFR may be used initially to guide dosing

\*\*If patient weight ≤40kg – reduce dose to 60mg po BD

**Zanamivir Inhaler**

Adults (within 48hours unless for immunocompromised- see page 5)

Zanamivir 10mg inh BD for 5 days

If requiring IV – see full UKHSA guideline and must be discussed with microbiologist

## Post Exposure Prophylaxis

Post exposure prophylaxis should be considered for patients in the 'at risk groups' (see below) following significant exposure (same bay) to a confirmed case of influenza.

**Nb. Previously healthy (exclude pregnant women) usually do not require prophylaxis**

### At risk groups for complicated influenza

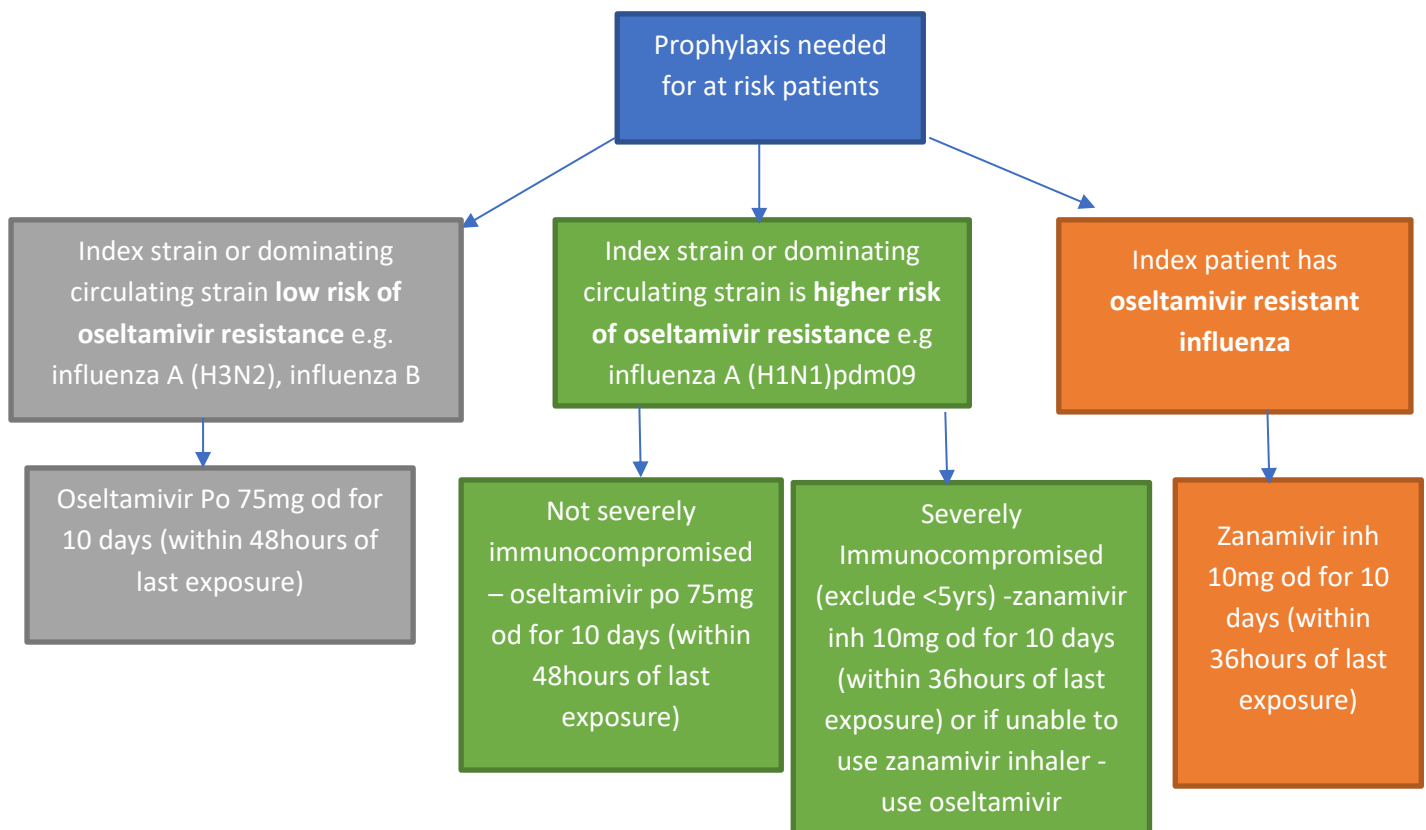
- neurological, hepatic, renal, pulmonary and chronic cardiac disease
- diabetes mellitus
- severe immunosuppression (see definition – see page 5)
- age over 65 years
- pregnancy (including up to 2 weeks post-partum)
  - children under 6 months of age
  - morbid obesity (BMI ≥40)

**When considering prophylaxis - in addition to whether patient is in the at risk group – consider whether patient is vaccinated – if vaccinated – may not need prophylaxis**

### Prophylaxis is needed if at risk group and as below:

- Unvaccinated
- there has been less than 14 days between vaccination and date of contact with influenza patient

**Nb** Vaccination is considered to be well matched as of 23/12/22



**Post exposure prophylaxis dosing**

**Oseltamivir** 75mg po od for 10 days (starting within 48hours of last exposure ideally)

<b>CrCl (mL/min)*</b>	<b>Oseltamivir Prophylaxis</b>	<b>Duration</b>
<b>&gt;60</b>	<b>75mg** PO OD</b>	<b>10 days</b>
<b>31-60</b>	<b>30mg PO OD</b>	<b>10 days</b>
<b>11-30</b>	<b>30mg PO every 48 hours</b>	<b>10 days</b>
<b>≤10</b>	<b>30mg PO STAT and repeat in 7 days</b>	<b>(2 doses)</b>

\*If Crcl is not available - eGFR may be used initially to guide dosing

\*\* If patient weight ≤40kg – reduce dose to 60mg po OD

**Zanamivir inhaler (not licensed for <5years)**

Zanamivir inh 10mg od for 10 days (start within 36hours of last exposure ideally)

### **Definition for Severe immunosuppression**

Degrees of immunosuppression are difficult to quantify and individual variation exists (list not exhaustive)

Examples of severe immunosuppression include:

- severe primary immunodeficiency
- current or recent (within 6 months) chemotherapy or radiotherapy for malignancy.
- solid organ transplant recipients on immunosuppressive therapy
- bone marrow transplant recipients currently receiving immunosuppressive treatment, or within 12 months of receiving immunosuppression
- patients with current graft-versus-host disease
- patients currently receiving high dose systemic corticosteroids (equivalent to  $\geq 40$  mg prednisolone per day for  $>1$  week in an adult, or  $\geq 2$ mg/kg/day for  $\geq 1$  week in a child), and for at least 3 months after treatment has stopped.
- HIV infected patients with severe immunosuppression (CD4 $<200/\mu\text{l}$  or  $<15\%$  of total lymphocytes in an adult or child over 5; CD4 $< 500/\mu\text{l}$  or  $<15\%$  of total lymphocytes in a child aged 1 to 5; expert clinical opinion in a child aged under 1)
- patients currently or recently (within 6 months) on other types of highly immunosuppressive therapy or where the patient's specialist regards them as severely immunosuppressed