



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
2300 E STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20372-7300

IN REPLY REFER TO

6220

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5 May 09

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE EAST
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE WEST
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE NATIONAL CAPITOL AREA
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE SUPPORT COMMAND

Subj: POLICY GUIDANCE ON MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITY (MTF) USE OF TAMIFLU

- Ref: (a) TRICARE Website, <http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Prescriptions/medications/Non-FormularyMedications?>
(b) Code of Federal Regulations Section 199.21 Pharmacy Benefits Program, <http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&sid=38fd0fab8abd9e85b7d26ac0340cced2&rgn=div8&view=text&node=32:2.1.1.1.8.0.1.21&idno=32>
(c) BUMED Memorandum of 26 October 2006, Pandemic Influenza Program Logistics Initiatives

1. There has been much discussion regarding oseltamivir (Tamiflu) and zanamivir (Relenza) stockpiles, formulary status, and prescription policies. Per current TRICARE benefits policy, references (a) and (b), MTFs must fill all legal beneficiary prescriptions for medications on formulary. For non-formulary medications, MTFs are only obligated to fill beneficiary prescriptions written by MTF providers after medical necessity for the drug has been established.
2. In order to ensure optimal use of available and effective antivirals, and to mitigate the impact of a potential pandemic, the following guidance will be implemented:
 - a. Oseltamivir and zanamivir will remain non-formulary medications in all Navy MTFs. If a revision is requested, justification must be provided to the Bureau of Medicine & Surgery (BUMED) Medical Operations Center (MOC) at BUMED.MOC@med.navy.mil.
 - b. Screen all prescriptions for appropriate medical indication. Treatment and post exposure prophylaxis prescriptions will be filled first from non-stockpile supplies when possible.
 - c. Each medical facility will develop, review and/or revise, as appropriate, their mitigation strategies for high demand medications during public health emergencies. Anticipate increased demand if the outbreak progresses.
 - d. If stockpile medications are to be utilized, prior notification will be provided to the BUMED MOC. Use of stockpile medications will be reported and tracked in the Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support (DMLSS) system per reference (c).
3. Our Sailors, Marines and beneficiaries are our greatest asset and rely on us to provide the best possible care in all situations. Judicious and appropriate use of medications helps ensure they receive such care.

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