

**Emergency Compounding of an Oral Suspension from TAMIFLU Capsules:
(Final Concentration 15 mg/mL)**

The following directions are provided for use only during emergency situations. These directions are not intended to be used if the Health Canada-approved, commercially manufactured TAMIFLU for Oral Suspension is readily available from wholesalers or the manufacturer.

Compounding an oral suspension with this procedure will provide one patient with enough medication for a 5-day course of treatment or a 10-day course of prophylaxis.

Commercially manufactured TAMIFLU for Oral Suspension (12 mg/mL) is the preferred product for pediatric and adult patients who have difficulty swallowing capsules or where lower doses are needed. In the event that TAMIFLU for Oral Suspension is not available, the pharmacist may compound a suspension (15 mg/mL) from TAMIFLU (oseltamivir phosphate) Capsules 75 mg using the vehicle Ora-Sweet SF (sugar-free) (Paddock Laboratories). Other vehicles have not been studied. **This compounded suspension should not be used for convenience or when the Health Canada-approved TAMIFLU for Oral Suspension is commercially available.**

First, calculate the Total Volume of an oral suspension needed to be compounded and dispensed for each patient. The Total Volume required is determined by the weight of each patient. Refer to [Table 5](#).

Table 5: TAMIFLU

Volume of an Oral Suspension (15 mg/mL) Needed to be Compounded Based Upon the Patient's Weight

Body Weight (kg)	Total Volume to Compound Per Patient (mL)
≤15 kg	30 mL
16 to 23 kg	40 mL
24 to 40 kg	50 mL
≥41 kg	60 mL

Second, determine the number of capsules and the amount of vehicle (Ora-Sweet SF) that are needed to prepare the Total Volume (calculated from [Table 5](#): 30 mL, 40 mL, 50 mL, or 60 mL) of compounded oral suspension (15 mg/mL). Refer to [Table 6](#).

Table 6: TAMIFLU

Number of TAMIFLU 75 mg Capsules and Amount of Vehicle (Ora-Sweet SF) Needed to Prepare the Total Volume of a Compounded Oral Suspension (15 mg/mL)

Total Volume of Compounded Oral Suspension Needed to be Prepared	30 mL	40 mL	50 mL	60 mL
Required number of TAMIFLU 75 mg Capsules	6 capsules (450 mg oseltamivir)	8 capsules (600 mg oseltamivir)	10 capsules (750 mg oseltamivir)	12 capsules (900 mg oseltamivir)
Required Volume of Vehicle Ora-Sweet SF (Paddock Laboratories)	29 mL	38.5 mL	48 mL	57 mL

Third, follow the procedure below for compounding the oral suspension (15 mg/mL) from TAMIFLU Capsules 75 mg:

1. Carefully separate the capsule body and cap and transfer the contents of the required number of TAMIFLU 75 mg Capsules into a clean mortar.
2. Triturate the granules to a fine powder.
3. Add one-third (1/3) of the specified amount of vehicle and triturate the powder until a uniform suspension is achieved.
4. Transfer the suspension to an amber glass or amber polyethyleneterephthalate (PET) bottle. A funnel may be used to eliminate any spillage.
5. Add another one-third (1/3) of the vehicle to the mortar, rinse the pestle and mortar by a triturating motion and transfer the vehicle into the bottle.
6. Repeat the rinsing (Step 5) with the remainder of the vehicle.
7. Close the bottle using a child-resistant cap.
8. Shake well to completely dissolve the active drug and to ensure homogeneous distribution of the dissolved drug in the resulting suspension. (Note: The active drug, oseltamivir phosphate, readily dissolves in the specified vehicle. The suspension is caused by some of the inert ingredients of TAMIFLU Capsules which are insoluble in the vehicle.)
9. Put an ancillary label on the bottle indicating "Shake Gently Before Use". [This compounded suspension should be gently shaken prior to administration to minimize the tendency for air entrapment.]
10. Instruct the parent or guardian that any remaining material following completion of therapy must be discarded by either affixing an ancillary label to the bottle or adding a statement to the pharmacy label instructions.
11. Place an appropriate expiration date label according to storage condition (see below).

Reference: Copied from Tamiflu monograph from Roche in the eCPS
(Accessed May 12/09 via the University of Manitoba Libraries website)

2

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Storage of the Pharmacy-Compounded Suspension: Compounded with Ora-Sweet SF: Stable for 5 weeks (35 days) when stored at 25°C.

Note: The storage conditions are based on stability studies of compounded oral suspensions, using the above mentioned vehicle, which were placed in amber glass and amber polyethyleneterephthalate (PET) bottles. Stability studies have not been conducted with other vehicles or bottle types.

Place a pharmacy label on the bottle that includes the patient's name, dosing instructions, and drug name and any other required information to be in compliance with all Provincial and Federal Pharmacy Regulations. **Refer to [Table 7](#) for the proper dosing instructions.**

Note: This compounding procedure results in a 15 mg/mL suspension, which is different from the commercially available TAMIFLU for Oral Suspension, which has a concentration of 12 mg/mL.

Table 7: TAMIFLU

Dosing Chart for Pharmacy-Compounded Suspension from TAMIFLU Capsules 75 mg

Body Weight (kg)	Dose (mg)	Volume per Dose 15 mg/mL	Treatment Dose (for 5 days)	Prophylaxis Dose (for 10 days)
≤15 kg	30 mg	2 mL	2 mL two times a day	2 mL once daily
16 to 23 kg	45 mg	3 mL	3 mL two times a day	3 mL once daily
24 to 40 kg	60 mg	4 mL	4 mL two times a day	4 mL once daily
≥41 kg	75 mg	5 mL	5 mL two times a day	5 mL once daily

Note: 1 teaspoon=5 mL.

Consider dispensing the suspension with a graduated oral syringe for measuring small amounts of suspension. If possible, mark or highlight the graduation corresponding to the appropriate dose (2 mL, 3 mL, 4 mL, or 5 mL) on the oral syringe for each patient. The dosing device dispensed with the commercially available TAMIFLU for Oral Suspension should NOT be used with the compounded suspension since they have different concentrations.

Reference: Copied from Tamiflu monograph from Roche in the eCPS
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3

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