

Considerations for Health Care Providers: Oseltamivir and Seasonal Influenza Vaccine

Seasonal Flu Vaccine and HPAI A(H5N1):

While the seasonal influenza vaccines will not provide protection against HPAI A(H5N1) viruses it will reduce the risk of being infected with another flu virus at the same time. During these rare coinfection events, there may be risk that a new virus is developed.

Drug Interactions:

- Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)
 - Do not administer until 48 hours following cessation of Oseltamivir.
 - Do not administer Oseltamivir until 2 weeks following administration of the live attenuated influenza vaccine, unless medically indicated.
 - These indications would include the use of Oseltamivir as PEP for high-risk patients during an HPAI response.
 - If a patient requires Oseltamivir before the end of the 2 weeks post vaccination be aware that the efficacy of the vaccine will drop.
- Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (TIV)
 - Can be administered at any time relative to use of Oseltamivir.
 - There are no significant known drug interactions that have been identified between TIV and Oseltamivir.
- Why does the version of the vaccine matter?
 - Possible interference arises from the potential for the antiviral inhibiting the replications of the live vaccine virus in the LAIV.
 - The decrease in vaccine efficacy results in patient being at elevated risk for acquiring human influenza virus. This in turn increases the risk of possible coinfections.