

Leeds Anti-Viral Supplies for Flu

Unlike in Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield, Leeds has not commissioned a dedicated Anti-Viral Access Service. This means it can be difficult and confusing for patients, care homes and pharmacies to know where to direct patients to for supplies of anti-virals when needed.

During flu season, GPs are able to prescribe for suitable patients via an FP10. Full details of when it is appropriate to prescribe are detailed in <u>NICE TA 168</u> and <u>NICE TA 158</u>. This can be dispensed at any pharmacy and normally stock is either available straight away or can be ordered in for the next working day.

It is important to note that the maximum time period for initiating treatment is 48 hours. This means it is important for patients to receive their medication promptly, even out of normal working hours. Please note, **Asda Pharmacy at Killingbeck** (see below) hold a stock of oseltamivir 75 and 30mg capsules. You may need to direct patients / prescriptions there to meet the requirement to start treatment within 48 hours.

Asda Pharmacy, Killingbeck Drive, Leeds, LS14 6UF Telephone: 0113 201 9510

Opening hours (may differ over bank holidays):

Monday - Saturday: 9.00 - 21.00

Sunday: 10.00 - 16.00

Out of flu season, provision still needs to be made for care and nursing home residents when there are outbreaks of flu-like illnesses. However, at these times, GPs are **not** allowed to prescribe anti-virals on an FP10. Therefore, alternative arrangements need to be made in each ICB area.

In the event of an out of season outbreak in Leeds, the ICB in Leeds has contracted **Leeds Teaching Hospitals (LTH) Pharmacy** to dispense anti-viral medication on receipt of either a Patient Specific Direction (PSD) or private prescription from a doctor or other non-medical prescriber.

Therefore, if you receive requests for anti-virals outside of the normal flu season, or are presented with a prescription for them, the patient or carer must be directed to LTH Pharmacy for the supply. Full details of the care home arrangements in place in Leeds can be accessed here.