

# Influenza Outbreak Antiviral Medication Recommended for Unimmunized Staff

## A Suspected or Confirmed Influenza Outbreak Is Occurring At Your Worksite

The Alberta Health Services Central Zone Medical Officers of Health (MOH) recommend all unimmunized staff receive an antiviral medication, Oseltamivir, to prevent infection of staff and residents/patients.

**Unimmunized staff** are **not** recommended to work when there is an outbreak unless they are taking the antiviral medication. They are allowed to work at another site without an influenza outbreak once they have waited 3 days to ensure they are not infected.

Depending on employer/employee health insurance arrangements, employees may be required to pay for antivirals.

Some unimmunized staff may have contacted their physician, prescribing pharmacist, or nurse practitioner in the fall to arrange to have a prescription on-file at their pharmacy. In this case, please visit your pharmacy to obtain the medication. The Medical Officer of Health will notify local pharmacies of the outbreak (weekdays only). Other unimmunized staff should contact their physician, a prescribing pharmacist, or nurse practitioner for a prescription (<https://abpharmacy.ca>); your site manager might also provide you with direction for obtaining antivirals.

If you have questions about this recommendation, please contact your site manager.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.