



Information Update: Public Health England involving GPs in Flu outbreak management, for both cases and well contacts of cases

NHSE have confirmed that prescribing Tamiflu, and other antivirals, prophylactically to **well contacts** of flu cases is **not** a GMS obligation.

Whereas, managing **symptomatic** flu cases is covered under GMS, and GPs should use their clinical discretion on using antivirals in these circumstances

Guidance can be found at:

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/summary-clinicians.htm>
2. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/648758/PHE_guidance_antivirals_influenza_201718_FINAL.pdf
3. <http://www.cebm.net/blog/2014/04/10/tamiflu-relenza-how-effective-are-they/>

Beginning on 12/6/17, David Geddes (NHSE) has sent 2 letters on the Tamiflu issue to all CCGs (Gateway references 06880 and 07402). These cover prescription of prophylaxis both outside and within the flu season ie year-round.

These letters can both be found at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/localised-community-outbreaks-of-influenza-in-the-out-of-season-period/>

We have liaised with the CCGs about this requirement and are still waiting on clarification of their plans for commissioning flu prophylaxis to well contacts. We expect to hear confirmation of how this service will be commissioned by the end of January. In the meantime, we thought it was helpful to clarify the situation above.

We will keep you posted of any further updates.

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For further information, or to arrange an interview, please contact:
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