

## Influenza antivirals

Oseltamivir is an oral drug - it is not recommended that all patients be treated.

Peramivir is an intravenous drug, very similar to oseltamivir. It is preferred for seriously ill patients.

Peramivir is available for inpatients at Waikato Hospital as part of a clinical trial. Administration to newly admitted patients will generally be commenced on the recommendation of the respiratory medicine team, who will review patients during the day. Overnight admissions will be started the next morning.

If patients are ill enough to be admitted, they should probably start oseltamivir, however will be changed to the IV drug if they are suitable for the trial.

Amantadine and rimantadine are not currently recommended for treatment of influenza at Waikato Hospital.

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