

## OSELTAMIVIR

*os-el-tam-ih-veer*

### What does it do?

*Osetamivir* is used to treat and prevent influenza ('the flu').

### Before you start

- Tell your health professional if you have kidney problems.
- Tell your health professional if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

### How should you take it?

Take *oseltamivir* regularly as directed. You can take it with or without food but if you find it upsets your stomach try taking it with food. Keep taking it until the course is finished, even if you start to feel better. If you are taking it to treat the flu, you need to start it within 2 days of getting symptoms.

Capsule: Swallow whole with a glass of water.

Liquid: Measure carefully with an oral syringe or measuring spoon. Shake the bottle well before measuring each dose.

### What if you forget a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as possible and continue as directed.

### Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

### What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects   | Recommended action              |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Symptoms of allergy including: skin rash, itching, swelling, trouble breathing<br>Severe or persistent diarrhoea, abdominal pain, blood in bowel motions | Tell your doctor immediately    |
| Headache   | Tell your doctor if troublesome |
| Nausea, vomiting   | Take with food                  |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

### Other information:

- Store *oseltamivir* liquid as directed. Once the course is finished, take any leftover liquid back to your pharmacy.