

# FDA expands tamiflu use to treat babies under one year old

December 22 2012

---



Tamiflu can now be given to children as young as 2 weeks old under an expanded approval announced Friday by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

(HealthDay)—Tamiflu (oseltamivir) can now be given to children as young as 2 weeks old under an expanded approval announced Friday by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Tamiflu can be used as treatment in children aged 2 weeks to 1 year if they have had [flu symptoms](#) for no longer than two days. The drug is not approved to prevent flu in these children and the safety and effectiveness of Tamiflu in children younger than 2 weeks of age has not been established.

While there are fixed dosing regimens for children 1 year and older according to weight categories, dosing for children younger than 1 year must be calculated individually based on exact weight, the FDA stressed. Children 2 weeks to 1 year of age should receive 3 milligrams per

kilogram of weight twice daily for five days.

"Pharmacists must provide the proper dispenser when filling a prescription so parents can measure and administer the correct dose to their children," Edward Cox, M.D., M.P.H., director of the Office of [Antimicrobial Products](#) in the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, said in an FDA news release.

**More information:** [More Information](#)

Copyright © 2012 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: FDA expands tamiflu use to treat babies under one year old (2012, December 22)  
retrieved 3 May 2024 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2012-12-fda-tamiflu-babies-year.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--