

**Hospital Use and Tracking of Anti-viral Medications from the State Cache**  
**Version 1 5-8-09 0900**

**Indications for use of anti-viral medications for H1N1 flu-** Use of the cached anti-viral medications must be in accordance with CDC guidance. The most current recommendations may be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations.htm> These recommendations are attached.

**Use of cached anti-viral medications for patients with suspected seasonal flu-** Not permitted.

**Preferred hierarchy for obtaining anti-viral medications for patients meeting CDC guidelines:**

- Hospital in-patient or out-patient
  - Hospital pharmacy (non-cache) stock
  - Community pharmacy (non-cache) via conventional prescription
  - State cache
  
- Community patient identified by primary care physician
  - Community pharmacy (non-cache) via conventional prescription
  - Hospital pharmacy (non-cache) stock
  - State cache

**Patients in the hospital or the community without insurance or other means to pay who meet the CDC guidelines to receive anti-virals and are at risk not to purchase them:**

Patients in these circumstances may be supplied with a course of anti-viral medications from the State cache.

**Reimbursement for dispensing State cache anti-virals -** Because the funding for purchase of all anti-virals in the State cache was a federal source, charges for the anti-viral drugs are not permitted. A clinician or pharmacy dispensing anti-viral medications from the State cache may bill a \$4.75 handling charge to the patient or the patient's insurer. Vermont Medicaid currently requires a prior authorization for billing.

**Distribution of State cache anti-viral supplies beyond hospital pharmacies -** No distribution is permitted at this time.

**Tracking requirements -** Every distribution of anti-viral medications by hospitals from the State cache must be tracked from the hospital pharmacy to the patient who receives the medications. This is a federal requirement related to patient safety in the event of a safety recall. Lot numbers must be connected to the patient's record. Further detailed guidance on hospital reporting of State cache anti-viral uses will be issued in the near future.

**Hospital retention of anti-viral medications from the State cache -** Hospitals have the option of retaining or returning the anti-viral medications distributed from the State cache at the outset of the recent flu outbreak. This document is the current guidance on distribution and dispensing of all State cache anti-viral medication until superseded by an updated version.