

Public Health – Seattle & King County  
Pandemic Influenza Response Plan

**APPENDIX B**

King County Priority Groups For Receiving Antiviral Medications  
During a Pandemic

If antiviral supplies are limited, treatment and prophylaxis during a pandemic will be prioritized as follows:

1. Treat patients hospitalized with influenza;
2. Treat health care workers with direct patient contact and Emergency Medical System workers;
3. Treat highest risk outpatients (immunocompromised and pregnant women);
4. Treat pandemic health responders, public safety and key government decision makers;
5. Treat increased risk populations – young children 12 – 23 months old, people over 65, and people with underlying medical conditions
6. Provide post-exposure prophylaxis in certain environments (e.g., nursing homes and other residential settings);
7. Provide prophylaxis for Emergency Medical System and health care workers and in emergency rooms, Intensive Care Units, and dialysis centers;
8. Treat critical infrastructure responders and health care workers without direct patient contact;
9. Treat other outpatients not included in categories above;
10. Provide prophylaxis to highest risk outpatients (immunocompromised and pregnant women);
11. Provide prophylaxis for other health care workers with direct patient contact.

*Based on guidelines included in the  
Department of Health and Human Services Pandemic Influenza Plan, 2005*