

Antivirals could halve pandemic death toll

A stockpile of antiviral medication sufficient to cover 65% of a country's population could cut deaths during an influenza pandemic by up to half. According to computer models, such a reduction in illness attack rates and fatalities could save around \$70,000 per 1,000 population

Recommended 65% level

52% France

50% Austria,
UK (to be increased to 75%)

45% Japan

43% Australia

33% Norway

29% New Zealand

25% Slovenia, Spain, United States

23% Portugal

20% Czech Republic

18% Germany

13% Slovakia

10% Taiwan

7% Italy

5% Brazil

1%
Mexico

Antiviral stockpiles*

% of population covered

Cost of course of therapy
to governments: \$22



*Total covered by stockpiles: **223 million** people or **3.3%** of world population

Sources: WHO, American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy

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