

cefOTAXIME

Newborn Use Only

2017

Alert	The Antimicrobial Stewardship Team recommends this drug is listed under the following category: Restricted.																							
Indication	As part of therapy for suspected meningitis. Treatment of proven meningitis and sepsis caused by susceptible organisms (e.g., <i>E.coli</i> , <i>H. influenzae</i> , <i>Klebsiella</i> spp.).																							
Action	Bactericidal agent which inhibits cell wall synthesis in susceptible bacteria. Broad spectrum against gram positive and many gram negative organisms but not <i>Pseudomonas</i> species.																							
Drug Type	Cephalosporin antibiotic.																							
Trade Name	Cefotaxime Sandoz, DBL Cefotaxime Sodium																							
Presentation	Cefotaxime 500 mg vial Cefotaxime 1 g vial																							
Dosage / Interval	<p>50 mg/kg/dose. Dosing interval as per the table below</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Method</th> <th rowspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Interval (hours)</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Corrected Gestational Age/Postmenstrual Age</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Postnatal Age</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">< 30⁺⁰ weeks</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0–28 days</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12 hourly</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">< 30⁺⁰ weeks</td> <td style="text-align: center;">29+ days</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8 hourly</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">30⁺⁰–36⁺⁶ weeks</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0–14 days</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12 hourly</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">30⁺⁰–36⁺⁶ weeks</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15+ days</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8 hourly</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">≥ 37⁺⁰ weeks</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0–7 days</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8 hourly</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">≥ 37⁺⁰ weeks</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8+ days</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6 hourly</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Method		Interval (hours)	Corrected Gestational Age/Postmenstrual Age	Postnatal Age	< 30 ⁺⁰ weeks	0–28 days	12 hourly	< 30 ⁺⁰ weeks	29+ days	8 hourly	30 ⁺⁰ –36 ⁺⁶ weeks	0–14 days	12 hourly	30 ⁺⁰ –36 ⁺⁶ weeks	15+ days	8 hourly	≥ 37 ⁺⁰ weeks	0–7 days	8 hourly	≥ 37 ⁺⁰ weeks	8+ days	6 hourly
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Route	IV IM																							
Maximum Daily Dose																								
Preparation/Dilution	<p>IV injection Add 9.8 mL of water for injection to the 500 mg powder for reconstitution to make a 50 mg/mL solution OR Add 9.6 mL of water for injection to the 1 g powder for reconstitution to make a 100 mg/mL solution.</p> <p>IM injection Add 2 mL of water for injection to the 500 mg powder for reconstitution to make a 230 mg/mL solution OR Add 3 mL of water for injection to the 1 g powder for reconstitution to make a 300 mg/mL solution.</p>																							
Administration	<p>IV injection: Over 3–5 minutes.</p> <p>IV infusion: Infuse over 15–30 minutes via syringe driver.</p> <p>IM injection: Inject deep into the large muscle.</p>																							
Monitoring	Not required. Cefotaxime has a high therapeutic index.																							
Contraindications	Hypersensitivity to cefotaxime or other cephalosporins or previous history of major allergic response to a penicillin.																							
Precautions	Liver and renal disease. Sodium restriction – cefotaxime contains 48.2 mg/g (2.1 mmol/g) sodium.																							
Drug Interactions	Cefotaxime, as do many cephalosporins, may potentiate the renal toxicity of nephrotoxic drugs. Cefotaxime should not be combined with bacteriostatic antibiotics (e.g., tetracycline, erythromycin or chloramphenicol) since an antagonistic effect is possible.																							

Adverse Reactions	Leucopenia, granulocytopenia, agranulocytosis. Moderate and transient rise in liver enzymes and or bilirubin. Hypersensitivity reactions. Arrhythmias have occurred in patients who received rapid IV administration through a central venous catheter. Fungal sepsis. Bacterial resistance.
Compatibility	Fluids: Glucose 5%, glucose 10%, Hartmann's, sodium chloride 0.9% Y site: Amino acid solutions, aciclovir, amifostine, aztreonam, bivalirudin, dexmedetomidine, granisetron, hydromorphone, magnesium sulfate, midazolam, morphine sulfate, pethidine, remifentanil, tigecycline.
Incompatibility	Fluids: Alkaline solutions e.g., containing sodium bicarbonate. Y site: Aminoglycosides – amikacin, gentamicin, tobramycin; azathioprine, azithromycin, caspofungin, chloramphenicol, chlorpromazine, dobutamine, dolasetron, filgrastim, fluconazole, ganciclovir, haloperidol lactate, hydralazine, labetalol, methylprednisolone sodium succinate, mycophenolate mofetil, pentamidine, phenobarbitone, phentolamine, promethazine, protamine, sodium bicarbonate, vecuronium.
Stability	Reconstituted solution: Stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C when reconstituted with water for injection. Protect from light. Do not use if powder or solutions have darkened in colour.
Storage	Store below 25°C Protect from light.
Special Comments	The main metabolite of cefotaxime is desacetylcefotaxime. This metabolite is active and is thought to enhance activity against Gram negative organisms. It has a longer half-life than cefotaxime. The major route of clearance of both cefotaxime and desacetylcefotaxime is renal.
Evidence summary	As per NeoMed Consensus Group. Refer to reference manual or electronic version.
References	As per NeoMed Consensus Group. Refer to reference manual or electronic version.

Original version Date: 08/08/2015	Author: NeoMed Consensus Group
Current Version number: 2.1	Version Date: 10/08/2017
Risk Rating: Medium	Due for Review: 10/08/2020
Approved by: As per Local policy	Approval Date: As per Local policy