

Cefotaxime

Maxcef® (Cefotaxime) is a broad spectrum bactericidal cephalosporin antibiotic. Cefotaxime is exceptionally active in vitro against gram-negative organisms sensitive or resistant to first or second generation Cephalosporins. It is similar to other Cephalosporins in activity against gram positive organisms.

COMPOSITION

Maxcef[®] 250 mg IM/IV injection: Each vial contains Cefotaxime USP 250 mg as Cefotaxime Sodium. Each ampoule contains a solvent of 5 ml water for injection BP.

INDICATION

Maxcef™ (Cefotaxime) is indicated for the treatment of the following infections either before the infecting organism has been identified or when caused by bacteria of established sensitivity: Septicaemia Respiratory Tract Infections such as acute or chronic bronchitis, bacterial pneumonia, infected bronchiectasis, lung abscess and postoperative chest infections Urinary Tract Infections such as acute and chronic pyelonephritis, cystitis and asymptomatic bacteriuria Soft-tissue Infection such as cellulitis, peritonitis and wound infections Bone and Joint Infections such as osteomyelitis, septic arthritis Obstetric and gynaecological infections: such as pelvic inflammatory disease Gonorrhoea particularly when penicillin has failed or is unsuitable Other Bacterial Infections: meningitis and other sensitive infections suitable for parenteral antibiotic therapy Prophylaxis: The administration of Cefotaxime prophylactically may reduce the incidence of certain post operative infections in patients undergoing surgical procedures that are classified as contaminated or potentially contaminated or in clean operation where infection would have serious effects.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Adults:

The recommended dosage for mild to moderate infections is 1 gm every 12 hourly. However, dosage may be varied according to the severity of infection, sensitivity of causative organisms and condition of the patient. In severe infections dosage may be increased up to 12 gm daily given in 3 or 4 divided doses. For infections caused by sensitive Pseudomonas spp. daily doses of greater than 6 gm will usually be required

Children

The usual dosage range is 100-150 mg/kg/day in 2 to 4 divided doses. However, in very severe infections doses of up to 200 mg/kg/day may be required.

Neonates:

The recommended dosage is 50 mg/kg/day in 2 to 4 divided doses. In severe infections 150-200 mg/kg/day, in divided doses, have been given.

Dosage in gonorrhoea

500 mg as a single dose.

Dosage in renal impairment

Because of extra-renal elimination, it is only necessary to reduce the dosage of Cefotaxime in severe renal failure (GFR-S ml/min = serum creatinine approximately 751 micromol/litre). After an initial loading dose of 1 gm, daily dose should be halved without change in the frequency of dosing. In all other patients, dosage may require further adjustment according to the course of infection and the general condition of the patient.

Direction for reconstitution

For reconstitution purpose add water for injection as per the following chart:

Route	250 mg
IM	2 ml
IV	2-5 ml

CONTRAINDICATION

Maxcef (Cefotaxime) is contraindicated in patients who have shown hypersensitivity to cefotaxime or the cephalosporin group of antibiotics.

PREGNANCY AND LACTATION

Although studies in animals have not shown any adverse effect on the developing foetus,

the safety of Cefotaxime in human pregnancy has not been established. Consequently, Cefotaxime should not be administered during pregnancy especially during first trimester, without carefully weighing the expected benefit against possible risks. Cefotaxime is excreted in the milk.

SIDE FEFECT

Adverse reactions to Cefotaxime have occurred relatively infrequently and have generally been mild and transient. Effects reported include candidiasis, rashes, fever, transient rises in liver transaminase and/or alkaline phosphatase and diarrhoea. As with all cephalosporins, pseudomembranous colitis may rarely occur during treatment. If this occurs the drug should be stopped and specific treatment instituted. As with other cephalosporins, changes in renal function have been rarely observed with high doses of Cefotaxime. Administration of high doses of cephalosporins particularly in patients with renal insufficiency may result in encephalopathy. Hypersensitivity reactions have been reported, these include skin rashes, drug fever and very rarely anaphylaxis.

SPECIAL WARNING & PRECAUTION

Maxcef® (Cefotaxime) should be prescribed with caution in individuals with a history of gastrointestinal disease, particularly colitis. Because high and prolonged antibiotic concentrations can occur from usual doses in patients with transient or persistent reduction of urinary output because of renal insufficiency, the total daily dosage should be reduced when Cefotaxime is administered to such patients. Continued dosage should be determined by degree of renal impairment, severity of infection, and susceptibility of the causative organism. There is no clinical evidence supporting the necessity of changing the dosage of Cefotaxime in patients with even profound renal dysfunction.

DRUG INTERACTION

Increased nephrotoxicity has been reported following concomitant administration of cephalosporins and aminoglycoside antibiotics.

STORAGE CONDITION

Store below 25° C, protected from light and moisture. Use reconstituted solution immediately. Reconstituted solution is stable for up to 24 h if stored between 2° - 8° C.

HOW SUPPLIED

Maxcef® 250 IM/IV injection: Pack of 1 vial contains Cefotaxime USP 250 mg as Cefotaxime Sodium accompanied by a solvent ampoule of 5 ml water for injection BP. It also contains a complementary pouch comprised of disposable syringe (5 ml), baby needle alcohol pad and first aid bandage.

