### General description

Cefotaxime is a 3rd-generation cephalosporin.

### INN
- **Cefotaxime**

### ATC codes
- **J01DD01**

### Medicine type
- **Chemical agent**

### Antibiotic groups
- **WATCH**

### EML status history
- First added in 2009 ([TRS 958](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Bacterial infection of unspecified site
- Added in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Bacterial meningitis
- Added in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Osteomyelitis or osteitis
- Added in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Bacterial infection of joint
- Added in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Sepsis without septic shock
- Added in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Peritoneal abscess
- Added in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Peritonitis
- Removed in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Bacterial infection of unspecified site
- Added in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Bacterial pneumonia
- Added in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Other specified pneumonia
- Added in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Acute pyelonephritis
- Added in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/medicines/services/systems/emergency-list/en/)) for Inflammatory and other diseases of prostate

### Recommendations

- [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cefotaxime)
- [DrugBank](https://www.drugbank.ca/drugs/Cefotaxime)
Parenteral > General injections > unspecified: 250 mg in vial powder for injection (as sodium salt)

Indications

First choice

- Other specified pneumonia (Hospital-acquired pneumonia) & Bacterial meningitis
- Bacterial pneumonia (Community-acquired pneumonia - severe) [children]

co-prescribed with amikacin

- Acute pyelonephritis (severe)

co-prescribed with amikacin

- Inflammatory and other diseases of prostate (severe)

co-prescribed with clarithromycin

- Bacterial pneumonia (Community-acquired pneumonia - severe)

co-prescribed with metronidazole

- Peritoneal abscess (severe)

co-prescribed with metronidazole

- Peritoneal abscess (mild-moderate)

co-prescribed with metronidazole

- Peritonia (mild-moderate)

co-prescribed with metronidazole

- Peritonitis (severe)

Second choice

- Inflammatory and other diseases of prostate (mild to moderate) & Acute pyelonephritis (mild to moderate)
- Sepsis without septic shock
- Bacterial infection of joint & Osteomyelitis or osteitis

Other indications

- Bacterial infection of unspecified site