





		EMLc	ATC codes: J01DD01
Indication	Bacterial meningitis	ICD11 code: 8E71.0Z	
INN	Cefotaxime		
Medicine type	Chemical agent		
Antibiotic groups	 WATCH		
List type	Core (EML) (EMLc)		
Additional notes	3rd generation cephalosporin of choice for use in hospitalized neonates.		
Formulations	Parenteral > General injections > unspecified: 250 mg in vial powder for injection (as sodium salt) ; 500 mg in vial powder for injection (as sodium salt) ; 1 g in vial powder for injection (as sodium salt) ; 2 g in vial powder for injection (as sodium salt)		
EML status history	First added in 2025 (TRS 1064)		
Sex	All		
Age	Also recommended for children		
Therapeutic alternatives	The recommendation is for this specific medicine		
Patent information	Patents have expired in most jurisdictions Read more about patents . 		
Wikipedia	Cefotaxime 		
DrugBank	Cefotaxime 		

Expert Committee recommendation

Listings of medicines for treatment of bacterial central nervous system infections are duplicated in this section from section 6.

EML recommendations: Bacterial meningitis

First choice

Second choice

cefotaxime

ampicillin

ceftriaxone

benzylpenicillin

cefotaxime

amoxicillin

ceftriaxone

chloramphenicol

amoxicillin

ampicillin

benzylpenicillin

chloramphenicol

