### Cefotaxime

**Indication**: Bacterial infection of unspecified site  
**ICD11 code**: 1C81

**INN**: Cefotaxime

**Medicine type**: Chemical agent

**Antibiotic groups**: WATCH

**List type**: Complementary

**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)

**EML status history**:  
- First added in 2009 ([TRS 958](https://www.who.int/ihe/trimodփ/itc/))  
- Removed in 2017 ([TRS 1006](https://www.who.int/ihe/trimodփ/itc/))

**Sex**: All

**Age**: Newborn (< 1 month)

**Therapeutic alternatives**: The recommendation is for this specific medicine

**Patent information**: Patents have expired in most jurisdictions  
Read more about patents. [Read more](https://www.who.int/ihe/trimodփ/itc/)

**Wikipedia**: Cefotaxime

**DrugBank**: Cefotaxime

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### Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

As part of the comprehensive review of antibacterials was undertaken by the Expert Committee in 2017, listing of cefotaxime was reviewed and specific indications for its use were recommended. Refer to the 2017 recommendation(s) for cefotaxime for more information.