





		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 2017 (TRS 1006) Changed in 2023 (TRS 1049)		
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

Following the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations on the EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended: - the addition of new strength formulations of cefotaxime (powder for injection: 500 mg; 1 g; 2 g (as sodium) in vial) to the EML and EMLc. - the addition of a new strength formulation of ceftriaxone (powder for injection: 500 mg (as sodium) in vial) to the EML and EMLc. - the addition of new formulations of amoxicillin (dispersible, scored tablet, 250 mg and 500 mg) to the EMLc. - the deletion of oral formulations of chloramphenicol (capsule 250 mg and oral liquid 150 mg/5 mL (as palmitate)) from the EML and EMLc.

EML recommendations: Bacterial meningitis

First choice

Second choice

cefotaxime

ampicillin

ceftriaxone

benzylpenicillin

amoxicillin

chloramphenicol

