Section: 6. Anti-infective medicines > 6.2. Antibacterials > 6.2.2. Watch group antibiotics

| | EMLc ATC codes: J01DD0 |
|--------------------------|---|
| Indication | Other specified pneumonia ICD11 code: CA40.Y |
| INN | Cefotaxime |
| Medicine type | Chemical agent |
| Antibiotic groups | W 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

The Expert Committee recommended the inclusion of a new strength, child-friendly dispersible tablet formulation of amoxicillin + clavulanic acid (200 mg + 28.5 mg) as an Access group antibiotic on the core list of the EMLc for treatment of bacterial infections in children - specifically those infections for which amoxicillin + clavulanic acid is already recommended on the EMLc. The Committee noted that the 7:1 ratio of amoxicillin to clavulanic acid is associated with similar efficacy to the 4:1 ratio but has a reduced frequency of gastrointestinal adverse effects. The Committee endorsed the importance of age-appropriate formulations to better meet the dosing needs of children. Following the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations on the EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended: - the addition of a new formulation of amoxicillin + clavulanic acid (dispersible tablet 250 mg + 62.5 mg) to the EMLc. - 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.

EML recommendations: Other specified pneumonia

First choice Second choice

piperacillin + tazobactam amoxicillin + clavulanic acid cefotaxime ceftriaxone

