Cefotaxime

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

EMLc | ATC codes: J01DD01

Indication	Other specified pneumonia ICD11 code: CA40.Y
INN	Cefotaxime
Medicine type	Chemical agent
Antibiotic groups	WATCH
List type	Core
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

HOSPITAL-ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA

piperacillin + tazobactam

amoxicillin + clavulanic acid

cefotaxime

ceftriaxone

