





EMLc

ATC codes: [J01DD01](#)

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| Indication | Acute pyelonephritis ICD11 code: GB51 |
| 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

In consideration of the review of the age appropriateness of formulations of medicines on the EMLc, and the comparison report of the EML versus EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended changes to the EMLc for addition of new, age-appropriate formulations and strengths of existing essential medicines, deletion of unavailable or age-inappropriate formulations and strengths, and other listing modifications as proposed in the application. The Committee also endorsed the proposals for further review of the public health relevance and evidence for specific medicines for use in children for potential future consideration for inclusion on the EMLc. The Committee noted and welcomed the ongoing review being coordinated by the Secretariat for the remaining sections of the EMLc for consideration by the 2025 Expert Committee. As a result of the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations on the EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended: - the addition of a new strength formulation of amikacin (injection 50 mg/mL (as sulfate) in 2 mL vial) 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. - the addition of a new strength formulation of ciprofloxacin (solid oral dosage form 100 mg (as hydrochloride)) to the EMLc.

EML recommendations: Acute pyelonephritis

First choice

Second choice

MILD TO MODERATE

ciprofloxacin

cefotaxime

ceftriaxone

SEVERE

cefotaxime

co-prescribed with [amikacin](#)

ceftriaxone

co-prescribed with [amikacin](#)

