

# Cefotaxime

<b>Indication</b>	Severe sensitive Gram negative and Gram positive infections Meningitis
<b>Dose</b>	50mg/kg 12 hourly for all babies <7 days 50mg/kg 8 hourly for all babies 7-20 days 50mg/kg 6-8 hourly for all babies 21-28 days 50mg/kg 6 hourly for all children >28 days (maximum 12g per day)
<b>Route of administration</b>	Intravenous injection over 3-5 minutes
<b>To prepare</b>	500mg vial – powder for reconstitution 1g vial – powder for reconstitution <b>Different brands of cefotaxime have different displacement volumes. Please check your specific brand for instructions on preparing.</b>  <b>Preferred diluent:</b> water for injection  <b>To make 100mg/mL:</b> For a 500mg vial - Calculate the volume of diluent needed by subtracting the <i>brand specific</i> displacement volume from 5mL. Add that volume of diluent to the vial and withdraw the required dose.  For a 1g vial - Calculate the volume of diluent needed by subtracting the <i>brand specific</i> displacement volume from 10mL. Add that volume of diluent to the vial and withdraw the required dose.  e.g. for Wockhardt cefotaxime 1g vial, the displacement volume is 0.5mL – therefore you should add 9.5mL of diluent to the vial.
<b>Compatibilities</b>	Glucose 5%, glucose 10%, sodium chloride, aciclovir, alprostadil, aztreonam, caffeine citrate, gentamicin, heparin, magnesium sulphate, metronidazole, midazolam, milrinone, morphine sulphate, propofol
<b>Known incompatibilities</b>	Azithromycin, fluconazole, vancomycin
<b>Notes</b>	Cefotaxime is inactive against Listeria, Enterococci and Pseudomonas.  If there is no compatibility information for specific drugs, do not assume compatibility. For incompatible drugs or those with no compatibility information use a separate line or, for short infusions, flush well between drugs.  For side-effects see the BNFC - <a href="#">Cefotaxime BNFC</a>
<b>References</b>	Handbook on Injectable Drugs, BNFC, Neonatal Formulary 7 <sup>th</sup> edition



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Clinicians must accept individual responsibility for using this information and prescribing safely.