

# Cefotaxime

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| <b>Indication</b>              | Severe sensitive Gram negative and Gram positive infections<br>Meningitis  |
| <b>Dose</b>                    | 50mg/kg 12 hourly for all babies <7 days<br>50mg/kg 8 hourly for all babies 7-20 days<br>50mg/kg 6-8 hourly for all babies 21-28 days<br>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<br>1g vial – powder for reconstitution<br><b>Different brands of cefotaxime have different displacement volumes. Please check your specific brand for instructions on preparing.</b><br><br><b>Preferred diluent:</b> water for injection<br><br><b>To make 100mg/mL:</b><br>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.<br><br>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.<br><br>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 0.9%, alprostadil, caffeine citrate, heparin, metronidazole, midazolam, milrinone, morphine sulphate, propofol  |
| <b>Known incompatibilities</b> | Azithromycin, fluconazole, gentamicin, vancomycin  |
| <b>Notes</b>                   | Cefotaxime is inactive against Listeria, Enterococci and Pseudomonas.<br><br>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.<br><br>For side-effects see the BNFC.  |
| <b>References</b>              | Handbook on Injectable Drugs, BNFC, Neonatal Formulary 7 <sup>th</sup> edition, Medusa.  |



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