CEFOXITIN- cefoxitin injection, powder, for solution
West-ward Pharmaceutical Corp

CEFOXITIN FOR INJECTION, USP

PHARMACY BULK PACKAGE
NOT FOR DIRECT INFUSION

To reduce the development of drug-resistant bacteria and maintain the effectiveness of cefoxitin for injection and other antibacterial drugs, cefoxitin for injection should be used only to treat or prevent infections that are proven or strongly suspected to be caused by bacteria.

DESCRIPTION

Cefoxitin for injection is a semi-synthetic, broad-spectrum cepha antibiotic sealed under nitrogen for intravenous administration. It is derived from cephamycin C, which is produced by *Streptomyces lactamdurans*. Its chemical name is sodium (6R,7S)-3-(hydroxymethyl)-7-methoxy-8-oxo-7-[2-(2-thienyl)acetamido]-5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylate carbamate (ester). The molecular formula is C_{16}H_{16}N_{3}NaO_{7}S_{2}, and the structural formula is:

![Structural formula of cefoxitin](image)

Cefoxitin for injection contains approximately 53.8 mg (2.3 milliequivalents) of sodium per gram of cefoxitin activity. Sterile Cefoxitin for Injection, USP is a dry white to off-white powder. Solutions of cefoxitin for injection range from colorless to light amber in color. The pH of freshly constituted solutions usually range from 4.2 to 7.0.

Each Pharmacy Bulk Package Bottle of cefoxitin for injection, USP is supplied as a dry powder and contains cefoxitin sodium equivalent to 10 grams of cefoxitin.

This Pharmacy Bulk Package Bottle is a container of sterile preparation for intravenous use that contains many single doses. The contents are intended for use in a pharmacy admixture service and are restricted to the preparation of admixtures for intravenous infusion. AFTER RECONSTITUTION FURTHER DILUTION IS REQUIRED BEFORE USE. NOT FOR DIRECT INFUSION.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Clinical Pharmacology

Following an intravenous dose of 1 gram, serum concentrations were 110 mcg/mL at 5 minutes, declining to less than 1 mcg/mL at 4 hours. The half-life after an intravenous dose is 41 to 59 minutes. Approximately 85 percent of cefoxitin is excreted unchanged by the kidneys over a 6-hour period, resulting in high urinary concentrations. Probenecid slows tubular excretion and produces higher serum levels and increases the duration of measurable serum concentrations.

Cefoxitin passes into pleural and joint fluids and is detectable in antibacterial concentrations in bile.

In a published study of geriatric patients ranging in age from 64 to 88 years with normal renal function
for their age (creatinine clearance ranging from 31.5 to 174.0 mL/min), the half-life for cefoxitin ranged from 51 to 90 minutes, resulting in higher plasma concentrations than in younger adults. These changes were attributed to decreased renal function associated with the aging process.

**Microbiology**

The bactericidal action of cefoxitin results from inhibition of cell wall synthesis. Cefoxitin has *in vitro* activity against a wide range of gram-positive and gram-negative organisms. The methoxy group in the 7α position provides cefoxitin with a high degree of stability in the presence of beta-lactamases, both penicillinas and cephalosporinas, of gram-negative bacteria.

Cefoxitin has been shown to be active against most strains of the following microorganisms, both *in vitro* and in clinical infections as described in the INDICATIONS AND USAGE section.

Aerobic gram-positive microorganisms

*Staphylococcus aureus*\(^1\) (including penicillinase-producing strains)

*Staphylococcus epidermidis*\(^1\)

*Streptococcus agalactiae*

*Streptococcus pneumoniae*

*Streptococcus pyogenes*

Most strains of *enterococci*, e.g., *Enterococcus faecalis*, are resistant.

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\(^1\) Staphylococci resistant to methicillin/oxacillin should be considered resistant to cefoxitin.

Aerobic gram-negative microorganisms

*Escherichia coli*

*Haemophilus influenzae*

*Klebsiella* spp. (including *K. pneumoniae*)

*Morganella morganii*

*Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (including penicillinase-producing strains)

*Proteus mirabilis*

*Proteus vulgaris*

*Providencia* spp. (including *Providencia rettgeri*)

Anaerobic gram-positive microorganisms

*Clostridium* spp.

*Peptococcus niger*

*Peptostreptococcus* spp.

Anaerobic gram-negative microorganisms

*Bacteroides distasonis*

*Bacteroides fragilis*

*Bacteroides ovatus*

*Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron*
Bacteroides spp.

The following in vitro data are available, but their clinical significance is unknown.

Cefoxitin exhibits in vitro minimum inhibitory concentrations (MIC's) of 8 mcg/mL or less for aerobic microorganisms and 16 mcg/mL or less for anaerobic microorganisms against most (≥ 90%) strains of the following microorganisms; however, the safety and effectiveness of cefoxitin in treating clinical infections due to these microorganisms have not been established in adequate and well-controlled clinical trials.

Aerobic gram-negative microorganisms

Eikenella corrodens [non-ß-lactamase producers]

Klebsiella oxytoca

Anaerobic gram-positive microorganisms

Clostridium perfringens

Anaerobic gram-negative microorganisms

Prevotella bivia (formerly Bacteroides bivius)

Cefoxitin is inactive in vitro against most strains of Pseudomonas aeruginosa and enterococci and many strains of Enterobacter cloacae.

Susceptibility Tests

Dilution Techniques:

Quantitative methods are used to determine antimicrobial minimum inhibitory concentrations (MIC’s). These MIC’s provide estimates of the susceptibility of bacteria to antimicrobial compounds. The MIC’s should be determined using a standardized procedure. Standardized procedures are based on a dilution method(1) (broth or agar) or equivalent with standardized inoculum concentrations and standardized concentrations of cefoxitin powder. The MIC values should be interpreted according to the following criteria:

For testing aerobic microorganisms*,$\dagger$, ‡ other than Neisseria gonorrhoeae

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MIC (mcg/mL)</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≤ 8</td>
<td>Susceptible (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Intermediate (I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 32</td>
<td>Resistant (R)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Staphylococci exhibiting resistance to methicillin/oxacillin should be reported as also resistant to cefoxitin despite apparent in vitro susceptibility.
† For testing Haemophilus influenzae these interpretative criteria applicable only to tests performed by broth microdilution method using Haemophilus Test Medium (HTM) (1).
‡ For testing streptococci these interpretative criteria applicable only to tests performed by broth microdilution method using cation-adjusted Mueller-Hinton broth with 2 to 5% lysed horse blood (1).

For testing Neisseria gonorrhoeae*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MIC (mcg/mL)</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≤ 2</td>
<td>Susceptible (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Intermediate (I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 8</td>
<td>Resistant (R)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Interpretative criteria applicable only to tests performed by agar dilution method using GC agar base with 1%
Standardized susceptibility test procedures require the use of laboratory control microorganisms to control the technical aspects of the laboratory procedures. Standard cefoxitin powder should provide the following MIC values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microorganism</th>
<th>MIC (mcg/mL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Escherichia coli</em></td>
<td>ATCC 25922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</em></td>
<td>ATCC 49226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Staphylococcus aureus</em></td>
<td>ATCC 29213</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Interpretative criteria applicable only to tests performed by agar dilution method using GC agar base with 1% defined growth supplement and incubated in 5% CO₂(1).

Diffusion Techniques:

Quantitative methods that require measurement of zone diameters also provide reproducible estimates of the susceptibility of bacteria to antimicrobial compounds. One such standardized procedure (2) requires the use of standardized inoculum concentrations. This procedure uses paper disks impregnated with 30-mcg cefoxitin to test the susceptibility of microorganisms to cefoxitin.

Reports from the laboratory providing results of the standard single-disk susceptibility test with a 30-mcg cefoxitin disk should be interpreted according to the following criteria:

**For testing aerobic microorganisms *†‡ other than Neisseria gonorrhoeae:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone Diameter (mm)</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 18</td>
<td>Susceptible (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>Intermediate (I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≤ 14</td>
<td>Resistant (R)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Staphylococci exhibiting resistance to methicillin/oxacillin should be reported as also resistant to cefoxitin despite apparent in vitro susceptibility.
† For testing *Haemophilus influenzae* these interpretative criteria applicable only to tests performed by disk diffusion method using Haemophilus Test Medium (HTM) (1).
‡ For testing streptococci these interpretative criteria applicable only to tests performed by disk diffusion method using Mueller-Hinton agar with 5% defibrinated sheep blood and incubated in 5% CO₂(2).

**For testing Neisseria gonorrhoeae*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone Diameter (mm)</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 28</td>
<td>Susceptible (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-27</td>
<td>Intermediate (I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≤ 23</td>
<td>Resistant (R)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Interpretative criteria applicable only to tests performed by disk diffusion method using GC agar base with 1% defined growth supplement and incubated in 5% CO₂(2).
Interpretation should be as stated above for results using dilution techniques.

Interpretation involves correlation of the diameter obtained in the disk test with the MIC for cefoxitin.

As with standardized dilution techniques, diffusion methods require the use of laboratory control microorganisms that are used to control the technical aspects of the laboratory procedures. For the diffusion technique, the 30-mcg cefoxitin disk should provide the following zone diameters in these laboratory test quality control strains:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microorganism</th>
<th>Zone Diameter (mm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Escherichia coli</em> ATCC 25922</td>
<td>23-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</em> ATCC 49226</td>
<td>33-41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Staphylococcus aureus</em> ATCC 25923</td>
<td>23-29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Interpretive criteria applicable only to tests performed by disk diffusion method using GC agar base with 1% defined growth supplement and incubated in 5% CO₂(2).

**Anaerobic Techniques:**

For anaerobic bacteria, the susceptibility to cefoxitin as MIC’s can be determined by standardized test methods (3). The MIC values obtained should be interpreted according to the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MIC (mcg/mL)</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≤ 16</td>
<td>Susceptible (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Intermediate (I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 64</td>
<td>Resistant (R)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interpretation is identical to that stated above for results using dilution techniques.

As with other susceptibility techniques, the use of laboratory control microorganisms is required to control the technical aspects of the laboratory standardized procedures. Standard cefoxitin powder should provide the following MIC values:

**Using either an Agar Dilution Method* or Using a Broth† Microdilution Method:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microorganism</th>
<th>MIC (mcg/mL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Bacteroides fragilis</em> ATCC 25285</td>
<td>4-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron</em> ATCC 29741</td>
<td>8-32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Range applicable only to tests performed using either Brucella blood or Wilkins-Chalgren agar.
† Range applicable only to tests performed in the broth formulation of Wilkins-Chalgren agar (3)

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

**Treatment**

Cefoxitin for injection is indicated for the treatment of serious infections caused by susceptible strains of the designated microorganisms in the diseases listed below.

- **Lower respiratory tract infections**, including pneumonia and lung abscess, caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, other streptococci (excluding enterococci, e.g., *Enterococcus faecalis* [formerly *Streptococcus faecalis*]), *Staphylococcus aureus* (including penicillinase-producing strains), *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella* species, *Haemophilus influenzae*, and *Bacteroides* species.

- **Urinary tract infections** caused by *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella* species, *Proteus mirabilis*, *Morganella morganii*, *Proteus vulgaris* and *Providencia* species (including *P. rettgeri*).

- **Intra-abdominal infections**, including peritonitis and intra-abdominal abscess, caused by
Escherichia coli, Klebsiella species, Bacteroides species including Bacteroides fragilis, and Clostridium species.

- **Gynecological infections**, including endometritis, pelvic cellulitis, and pelvic inflammatory disease caused by *Escherichia coli*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (including penicillinase-producing strains), *Bacteroides* species including *B. fragilis*, *Clostridium* species, and *Streptococcus agalactiae*. Cefoxitin for injection, like cephalosporins, has no activity against *Chlamydia trachomatis*. Therefore, when Cefoxitin for injection is used in the treatment of patients with pelvic inflammatory disease and *C. trachomatis* is one of the suspected pathogens, appropriate anti-chlamydial coverage should be added.

- **Septicemia** caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Staphylococcus aureus* (including penicillinase-producing strains), *Escherichia coli*, Klebsiella species, and *Bacteroides* species including *B. fragilis*.

- **Bone and joint infections** caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* (including penicillinase-producing strains).

- **Skin and skin structure infections** caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* (including penicillinase-producing strains), *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, *Streptococcus pyogenes* and other streptococci (excluding enterococci e.g., *Enterococcus faecalis* [formerly *Streptococcus faecalis*]), *Escherichia coli*, *Proteus mirabilis*, Klebsiella species, *Bacteroides* species including *B. fragilis*, *Clostridium* species, *Peptococcus niger*, and *Peptostreptococcus* species.

Appropriate culture and susceptibility studies should be performed to determine the susceptibility of the causative organisms to cefoxitin. Therapy may be started while awaiting the results of these studies.

In randomized comparative studies, cefoxitin and cephalothin were comparably safe and effective in the management of infections caused by gram-positive cocci and gram-negative rods susceptible to the cephalosporins. Cefoxitin has a high degree of stability in the presence of bacterial beta-lactamases, both penicillinases and cephalosporinases.

Many infections caused by aerobic and anaerobic gram-negative bacteria resistant to some cephalosporins respond to cefoxitin. Similarly, many infections caused by aerobic and anaerobic bacteria resistant to some penicillin antibiotics (ampicillin, carbenicillin, penicillin G) respond to treatment with cefoxitin. Many infections caused by mixtures of susceptible aerobic and anaerobic bacteria respond to treatment with cefoxitin.

**Prevention**

Cefoxitin for injection is indicated for the prophylaxis of infection in patients undergoing uncontaminated gastrointestinal surgery, vaginal hysterectomy, abdominal hysterectomy, or cesarean section.

If there are signs of infection, specimens for culture should be obtained for identification of the causative organism so that appropriate treatment may be instituted.

To reduce the development of drug-resistant bacteria and maintain the effectiveness of cefoxitin for injection and other antibacterial drugs, cefoxitin for injection should be used only to treat or prevent infections that are proven or strongly suspected to be caused by susceptible bacteria. When culture and susceptibility information are available, they should be considered in selecting or modifying antibacterial therapy. In the absence of such data, local epidemiology and susceptibility patterns may contribute to the empiric selection of therapy.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Cefoxitin for injection is contraindicated in patients who have shown hypersensitivity to cefoxitin and the cephalosporin group of antibiotics.

**WARNINGS**
BEFORE THERAPY WITH CEFXITIN FOR INJECTION IS INSTITUTED, CAREFUL INQUIRY SHOULD BE MADE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PATIENT HAS HAD PREVIOUS HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS TO CEFXITIN, CEPHALOSPORINS, PENICILLINS, OR OTHER DRUGS. THIS PRODUCT SHOULD BE GIVEN WITH CAUTION TO PENICILLIN-SENSITIVE PATIENTS. ANTIBIOTICS SHOULD BE ADMINISTERED WITH CAUTION TO ANY PATIENT WHO HAS DEMONSTRATED SOME FORM OF ALLERGY, PARTICULARLY TO DRUGS. IF AN ALLERGIC REACTION TO CEFXITIN FOR INJECTION OCCURS, DISCONTINUE THE DRUG. SERIOUS HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS MAY REQUIRE EPINEPHRINE AND OTHER EMERGENCY MEASURES.

_Clostridium difficile_ associated diarrhea (CDAD) has been reported with the use of nearly all antibacterial agents, including Cefoxitin for injection, and it may range in severity from mild diarrhea to fatal colitis. Treatment with antibacterial agents alters the normal flora of the colon leading to overgrowth of _C. difficile_.

_C. difficile_ produces toxins A and B which contribute to the development of CDAD. Hypertoxin producing strains of _C. difficile_ cause increased morbidity and mortality, as these infections can be refractory to antimicrobial therapy and may require colectomy. CDAD must be considered in all patients who present with diarrhea following antibiotic use. Careful medical history is necessary since CDAD has been reported to occur over two months after the administration of antibacterial agents.

If CDAD is suspected or confirmed, ongoing antibiotic use not directed against _C. difficile_ may need to be discontinued. Appropriate fluid and electrolyte management, protein supplementation, antibiotic treatment of _C. difficile_, and surgical evaluation should be instituted as clinically indicated.

**PRECAUTIONS**

**General**

The total daily dose should be reduced when Cefoxitin for injection is administered to patients with transient or persistent reduction of urinary output due to renal insufficiency (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION), because high and prolonged serum antibiotic concentrations can occur in such individuals from usual doses.

Antibiotics (including cephalosporins) should be prescribed with caution in individuals with a history of gastrointestinal disease, particularly colitis.

As with other antibiotics, prolonged use of cefoxitin for injection may result in overgrowth of nonsusceptible organisms. Repeated evaluation of the patient's condition is essential. If superinfection occurs during therapy, appropriate measures should be taken.

Prescribing cefoxitin for injection in the absence of a proven or strongly suspected bacterial infection or a prophylactic indication is unlikely to provide benefit to the patient and increases the risk of the development of drug-resistant bacteria.

**Information for Patients**

Patients should be counseled that antibacterial drugs including cefoxitin for injection should only be used to treat bacterial infections. They do not treat viral infections (e.g., the common cold). When cefoxitin for injection is prescribed to treat a bacterial infection, patients should be told that although it is common to feel better early in the course of therapy, the medication should be taken exactly as directed. Physicians are advised to counsel patients that skipping doses or not completing the full course of therapy may: decrease the effectiveness of the immediate treatment and, increase the likelihood that bacteria will develop resistance and will not be treatable by cefoxitin for injection or other antibacterial drugs in the future.

Diarrhea is a common problem caused by antibiotics, which usually ends when the antibiotic is discontinued. Sometimes after starting the treatment with antibiotics, patients can develop watery and
bloody stools (with or without stomach cramps and fever) even as late as two or more months after having taken the last dose of the antibiotic. If this occurs, patients should contact their physician as soon as possible.

**Laboratory Tests**

As with any potent antibacterial agent, periodic assessment of organ system functions, including renal, hepatic, and hematopoietic, is advisable during prolonged therapy.

**Drug Interactions**

Increased nephrotoxicity has been reported following concomitant administration of cephalosporins and aminoglycoside antibiotics.

**Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions**

As with cephalothin, high concentrations of cefoxitin (>100 micrograms/mL) may interfere with measurement of serum and urine creatinine levels by the Jaffé reaction, and produce false increases of modest degree in the levels of creatinine reported. Serum samples from patients treated with cefoxitin should not be analyzed for creatinine if withdrawn within 2 hours of drug administration.

High concentrations of cefoxitin in the urine may interfere with measurement of urinary 17-hydroxycorticosteroids by the Porter-Silber reaction, and produce false increases of modest degree in the levels reported.

A false-positive reaction for glucose in the urine may occur. This has been observed with CLINITEST	extsuperscript{2} reagent tablets.

	extsuperscript{2} Registered trademark of Ames Company, Division of Miles Laboratories, Inc.

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**

Long-term studies in animals have not been performed with cefoxitin to evaluate carcinogenic or mutagenic potential. Studies in rats treated intravenously with 400 mg/kg of cefoxitin (approximately three times the maximum recommended human dose) revealed no effects on fertility or mating ability.

**Pregnancy**

*Pregnancy Category B.* Reproduction studies performed in rats and mice at parenteral doses of approximately one to seven and one-half times the maximum recommended human dose did not reveal teratogenic or fetal toxic effects, although a slight decrease in fetal weight was observed.

There are, however, no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

In the rabbit, cefoxitin was associated with a high incidence of abortion and maternal death. This was not considered to be a teratogenic effect but an expected consequence of the rabbit's unusual sensitivity to antibiotic-induced changes in the population of the microflora of the intestine.

**Nursing Mothers**

Cefoxitin is excreted in human milk in low concentrations. Caution should be exercised when cefoxitin is administered to a nursing woman.

**Pediatric Use**

Safety and efficacy in pediatric patients from birth to three months of age have not yet been established. In pediatric patients three months of age and older, higher doses of cefoxitin have been associated with
an increased incidence of eosinophilia and elevated SGOT.

**Geriatric Use**

Of the 1,775 subjects who received cefoxitin in clinical studies, 424 (24%) were 65 and over, while 124 (7%) were 75 and over. No overall differences in safety or effectiveness were observed between these subjects and younger subjects, and other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients, but greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY). This drug is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of toxic reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection, and it may be useful to monitor renal function (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION and PRECAUTIONS).

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

Cefoxitin for injection is generally well tolerated. The most common adverse reactions have been local reactions following intravenous injection. Other adverse reactions have been encountered infrequently.

**Local Reactions**

Thrombophlebitis has occurred with intravenous administration.

**Allergic Reactions**

Rash (including exfoliative dermatitis and toxic epidermal necrolysis), urticaria, flushing, pruritus, eosinophilia, fever, dyspnea, and other allergic reactions including anaphylaxis, interstitial nephritis and angioedema have been noted.

**Cardiovascular**

Hypotension.

**Gastrointestinal**

Diarrhea, including documented pseudomembranous colitis which can appear during or after antibiotic treatment. Nausea and vomiting have been reported rarely.

**Neuromuscular**

Possible exacerbation of myasthenia gravis.

**Blood**

Eosinophilia, leukopenia including granulocytopenia, neutropenia, anemia, including hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia, and bone marrow depression. A positive direct Coombs test may develop in some individuals, especially those with azotemia.

**Liver Function**

Transient elevations in SGOT, SGPT, serum LDH, and serum alkaline phosphatase; and jaundice have been reported.

**Renal Function**

Elevations in serum creatinine and/or blood urea nitrogen levels have been observed. As with the cephalosporins, acute renal failure has been reported rarely. The role of cefoxitin in changes in renal function tests is difficult to assess, since factors predisposing to prerenal azotemia or to impaired renal function usually have been present.
In addition to the adverse reactions listed above which have been observed in patients treated with cefoxitin, the following adverse reactions and altered laboratory test results have been reported for cephalosporin class antibiotics:

Urticaria, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, serum sickness-like reactions, abdominal pain, colitis, renal dysfunction, toxic nephropathy, false-positive test for urinary glucose, hepatic dysfunction including cholestasis, elevated bilirubin, aplastic anaemia, hemorrhage, prolonged prothrombin time, pancytopenia, agranulocytosis, superinfection, vaginitis including vaginal candidiasis.

Several cephalosporins have been implicated in triggering seizures, particularly in patients with renal impairment when the dosage was not reduced. (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.) If seizures associated with drug therapy occur, the drug should be discontinued. Anticonvulsant therapy can be given if clinically indicated.

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE EVENTS, contact FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov.

OVERDOSAGE

The acute intravenous LD$_{50}$ in the adult female mouse and rabbit was about 8 g/kg and greater than 1 g/kg, respectively. The acute intraperitoneal LD$_{50}$ in the adult rat was greater than 10 g/kg.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The intent of this Pharmacy Bulk Package is for the preparation of solutions for intravenous infusion only.

TREATMENT

Adults

The usual adult dosage range is 1 gram to 2 grams every six to eight hours. Dosage should be determined by susceptibility of the causative organisms, severity of infection, and the condition of the patient (see Table 1 for dosage guidelines).

If C. trachomatis is a suspected pathogen, appropriate anti-chlamydial coverage should be added, because cefoxitin sodium has no activity against this organism.

Cefoxitin for injection may be used in patients with reduced renal function with the following dosage adjustments:

**In adults with renal insufficiency,** an initial loading dose of 1 gram to 2 grams may be given. After a loading dose, the recommendations for *maintenance dosage* (Table 2) may be used as a guide.

**When only the serum creatinine level is available,** the following formula (based on sex, weight, and age of the patient) may be used to convert this value into creatinine clearance. The serum creatinine should represent a steady state of renal function.

- **Males** = \( \frac{\text{Weight (kg)} \times (140-\text{age})}{72 \times \text{serum creatinine (mg/100 mL)}} \)
- **Females** = \( 0.85 \times \text{male value} \)

**In patients undergoing hemodialysis,** the loading dose of 1 to 2 grams should be given after each hemodialysis, and the maintenance dose should be given as indicated in Table 2.

Antibiotic therapy for group A beta-hemolytic streptococcal infections should be maintained for at least 10 days to guard against the risk of rheumatic fever or glomerulonephritis. In staphylococcal and other infections involving a collection of pus, surgical drainage should be carried out where indicated.

Pediatric Patients
The recommended dosage in pediatric patients three months of age and older is 80 to 160 mg/kg of body weight per day divided into four to six equal doses. The higher dosages should be used for more severe or serious infections. The total daily dosage should not exceed 12 grams.

At this time no recommendation is made for pediatric patients from birth to three months of age (see PRECAUTIONS).

In pediatric patients with renal insufficiency, the dosage and frequency of dosage should be modified consistent with the recommendations for adults (see Table 2).

PREVENTION

Effective prophylactic use depends on the time of administration. Cefoxitin for injection usually should be given one-half to one hour before the operation, which is sufficient time to achieve effective levels in the wound during the procedure. Prophylactic administration should usually be stopped within 24 hours since continuing administration of any antibiotic increases the possibility of adverse reactions but, in the majority of surgical procedures, does not reduce the incidence of subsequent infection.

For prophylactic use in uncontaminated gastrointestinal surgery, vaginal hysterectomy, or abdominal hysterectomy, the following doses are recommended:

**Adults:**

2 grams administered intravenously just prior to surgery (approximately one-half to one hour before the initial incision) followed by 2 grams every 6 hours after the first dose for no more than 24 hours.

**Pediatric Patients** (3 months and older):

30 to 40 mg/kg doses may be given at the times designated above.

Cesarean section patients:

For patients undergoing cesarean section, either a single 2 gram dose administered intravenously as soon as the umbilical cord is clamped OR a 3-dose regimen consisting of 2 grams given intravenously as soon as the umbilical cord is clamped followed by 2 grams 4 and 8 hours after the initial dose is recommended. (See CLINICAL STUDIES.)

**Table 1: Guidelines for Dosage of Cefoxitin for Injection**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Infection</th>
<th>Daily Dosage</th>
<th>Frequency and Route</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uncomplicated forms* of infections such as pneumonia, urinary tract infection, cutaneous infection</td>
<td>3-4 grams</td>
<td>1 gram every 6-8 hours IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately severe or severe infections</td>
<td>6-8 grams</td>
<td>1 gram every 4 hours or 2 grams every 6-8 hours IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infections commonly needing antibiotics in higher dosage (e.g., gas gangrene)</td>
<td>12 grams</td>
<td>2 grams every 4 hours or 3 grams every 6 hours IV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Including patients in whom bacteremia is absent or unlikely.

**Table 2: Maintenance Dosage of Cefoxitin for Injection in Adults with Reduced Renal Function**
Renal Function | Creatinine Clearance (mL/min) | Dose (grams) | Frequency
--- | --- | --- | ---
Mild impairment | 50-30 | 1-2 | every 8-12 hours
Moderate impairment | 29-10 | 1-2 | every 12-24 hours
Severe impairment | 9-5 | 0.5-1 | every 12-24 hours
Essentially no function | <5 | 0.5-1 | every 24-48 hours

### Table 3: Preparation of Solution for Intravenous Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strength</th>
<th>Amount of Diluent to be Added (mL)*</th>
<th>Approximate Withdrawable Volume (mL)</th>
<th>Approximate Average Concentration (mg/mL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 grams Pharmacy Bulk Package</td>
<td>43 or 93</td>
<td>49 or 98.5</td>
<td>200 or 100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Shake to dissolve and let stand until clear.

**DIRECTIONS FOR PROPER USE OF PHARMACY BULK PACKAGE BOTTLE - NOT FOR DIRECT INFUSION**

**For Bulk Packages**

The Pharmacy Bulk Package bottle is for use in a pharmacy admixture service under a laminar flow hood. Penetration into the Pharmacy Bulk Package bottle should be made only one time after reconstitution with a sterile transfer set or other sterile dispensing device, which allows measured distribution of the contents. Dispense the contents in aliquots using aseptic technique. The use of a syringe with a needle is not recommended as it may cause leakage.

**AFTER INITIAL ENTRY USE ENTIRE CONTENTS OF THE PHARMACY BULK PACKAGE PROMPTLY. A maximum time of 4 HOURS from initial entry is permitted to complete fluid transfer operations. ANY UNUSED PORTION MUST BE DISCARDED WITHIN 4 HOURS.** This time limit should begin with the introducing of solvent or diluent into the Pharmacy Bulk Package bottle.

**RECONSTITUTED BULK SOLUTION SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR DIRECT INFUSION.**

**Preparation of Solution**

The directions for preparing cefoxitin for injection Pharmacy Bulk Package are summarized in Table 3.

**For Intravenous Use**

The 10 grams bulk packages should be constituted with 43 or 93 mL of Sterile Water for Injection, Bacteriostatic Water for Injection, 0.9 percent Sodium Chloride Injection, or 5 percent Dextrose Injection.

**RECONSTITUTED STOCK SOLUTION MUST BE TRANSFERRED AND FURTHER DILUTED FOR I.V. INFUSION.**

These primary solutions may be further diluted in 50 to 1000 mL of the diluents listed under the **Bulk Packages** portion of the COMPATIBILITY AND STABILITY section.

**ADMINISTRATION**

Cefoxitin for injection may be administered intravenously after constitution. Parenteral drug products
should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration whenever solution and container permit. The intent of this pharmacy bulk package is for the preparation of solutions for intravenous infusion only.

Intravenous Administration

The intravenous route is preferable for patients with bacteremia, bacterial septicemia, or other severe or life-threatening infections, or for patients who may be poor risks because of lowered resistance resulting from such debilitating conditions as malnutrition, trauma, surgery, diabetes, heart failure, or malignancy, particularly if shock is present or impending.

For intermittent intravenous administration. Using an infusion system, a solution containing 1 gram or 2 grams may be given over a longer period of time through the tubing system by which the patient may be receiving other intravenous solutions. However, during infusions of the solution containing cefoxitin for injection, it is advisable to temporarily discontinue administration of any other solutions at the same site.

For the administration of higher doses by continuous intravenous infusion, a solution of cefoxitin for injection may be added to an intravenous bottle containing 5 percent Dextrose Injection, 0.9 percent Sodium Chloride Injection, or 5 percent Dextrose and 0.9 percent Sodium Chloride Injection. BUTTERFLY® or scalp vein-type needles are preferred for this type of infusion.

Solutions of cefoxitin for injection, like those of most beta-lactam antibiotics, should not be added to aminoglycoside solutions (e.g., gentamicin sulfate, tobramycin sulfate, amikacin sulfate) because of potential interaction. However, cefoxitin for injection and aminoglycosides may be administered separately to the same patient.

3 Registered trademark of Abbott Laboratories, Inc.

COMPATIBILITY AND STABILITY

Pharmacy Bulk Packages

Cefoxitin for injection supplied in pharmacy bulk package bottles and constituted to 1 gram/10 mL with Sterile Water for Injection, Bacteriostatic Water for Injection, (see PREPARATION OF SOLUTION), 0.9 percent Sodium Chloride Injection, or 5 percent Dextrose Injection, should be DISCARDED 4 HOURS AFTER INITIAL ENTRY, FURTHER DILUTION IS REQUIRED BEFORE USE.

RECONSTITUTED BULK SOLUTION SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR DIRECT INFUSION.

These primary solutions may be further diluted in 50 to 1000 mL of the following diluents and maintain potency for an additional 18 hours at room temperature or an additional 48 hours under refrigeration:

- 0.9 percent Sodium Chloride Injection
- 5 percent or 10 percent Dextrose Injection
- 5 percent Dextrose and 0.9 percent Sodium Chloride Injection
- 5 percent Dextrose Injection with 0.2 percent or 0.45 percent saline solution
- Lactated Ringer's Injection
- 5 percent Dextrose in Lactated Ringer's Injection
- 5 percent Sodium Bicarbonate Injection
- M/6 sodium lactate solution
- Mannitol 5% and 10%

After the periods mentioned above, any unused solutions should be discarded.

HOW SUPPLIED

Cefoxitin for Injection, USP is a dry white to off-white powder supplied in Pharmacy Bulk Package
bottle. Each Pharmacy Bulk Package bottle contains cefoxitin sodium equivalent to 10 grams of cefoxitin.

Cefoxitin for Injection, USP 10 g, Pharmacy Bulk Package - (10 gram cefoxitin equivalent)
NDC 0143-9876-10 cartons of 10 pharmacy bulk packages

Special storage instructions
Cefoxitin for injection in the dry state should be stored between 2-25°C (36-77°F). Avoid exposure to temperatures above 50°C. The dry material as well as solutions tend to darken, depending on storage conditions; product potency, however, is not adversely affected.

Special storage instructions
MEOFOXIN in the dry state should be stored between 2-25°C (36-77°F). Avoid exposure to temperatures above 50°C. The dry material as well as solutions tend to darken, depending on storage conditions; product potency, however, is not adversely affected.

CLINICAL STUDIES
A prospective, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial was conducted to determine the efficacy of short-term prophylaxis with cefoxitin in patients undergoing cesarean section who were at high risk for subsequent endometritis because of ruptured membranes. Patients were randomized to receive either three doses of placebo (n=58), a single dose of cefoxitin (2 g) followed by two doses of placebo (n=64), or a three-dose regimen of cefoxitin (each dose consisting of 2 g) (n=60), given intravenously, usually beginning at the time of clamping of the umbilical cord, with the second and third doses given 4 and 8 hours post-operatively. Endometritis occurred in 16/58 (27.6%) patients given placebo, 5/63 (7.9%) patients given a single dose of cefoxitin, and 3/58 (5.2%) patients given three doses of cefoxitin. The differences between the two groups treated with cefoxitin and placebo with respect to endometritis were statistically significant (p<0.01) in favor of cefoxitin. The differences between the one-dose and three-dose regimens of cefoxitin were not statistically significant.

In clinical trials of patients with intra-abdominal infections due to *Bacteroides fragilis* group microorganisms, eradication rates at 1 to 2 weeks post treatment for isolates were in the range of 70% to 80%. Eradication rates for individual species are listed below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bacteroides species</th>
<th>Number of isolates</th>
<th>Eradication Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Bacteroides distasonis</em></td>
<td>7/10</td>
<td>(70%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Bacteroides fragilis</em></td>
<td>26/33</td>
<td>(79%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Bacteroides ovatus</em></td>
<td>10/13</td>
<td>(77%)</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>B. thetaiotaomicron</em></td>
<td>13/18</td>
<td>(72%)</td>
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REFERENCES

Rx Only
Manufactured by:
CEFOXITIN
cefoxitin injection, powder, for solution

### Product Information

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<th>Product Type</th>
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### Active Ingredient/Active Moiety

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<td>CEFOXITIN SODIUM</td>
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**Marketing Information**

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**Labeler** - West-ward Pharmaceutical Corp (001230762)

**Establishment**

<table>
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Revised: 3/2010