

**PRODUCT MONOGRAPH**

## ☑Ceftazidime for Injection BP

(as ceftazidime pentahydrate)

- 1 g/vial, 2 g/vial, 3 g/vial, 6 g/vial Sterile Powder for Solution
- Antibiotic

**CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

*In vitro* studies indicate that the bactericidal action of ceftazidime, a semisynthetic cephalosporin antibiotic, results from inhibition of bacterial cell wall synthesis.

Ceftazidime has a high affinity for the Penicillin-Binding Protein-3 (PBP-3) and moderate affinity for the PBP-1a of certain Gram negative organisms such as *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. The affinity for PBP-1b is much less than that for either PBP-3 or PBP-1a. PBP-3 is involved in the process of cross-wall formation (septation). Binding to this protein results in formation of filaments and eventual death of the bacterium. PBP-1a and PBP-1b are involved in longitudinal wall synthesis (elongation) prior to septation. Binding to these proteins results in spheroplast formation followed by rapid lysis.

Ceftazidime has high affinity for PBP-1 and PBP-2 of *Staphylococcus aureus*. However, the drug’s affinity for PBP-3 is very much less in this organism.

**INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE**

Ceftazidime for Injection BP may be indicated for the treatment of patients with infections caused by susceptible strains of the designated organisms in the following diseases:

**Lower Respiratory Tract Infections**

Pneumonia caused by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*; *Haemophilus influenzae* including ampicillin-resistant strains; *Klebsiella* species; *Enterobacter* species; *Proteus mirabilis*; *Escherichia coli*, *Serratia* species, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, and *Staphylococcus aureus* including ampicillin-resistant (but not methicillin-resistant) strains.

**Urinary Tract Infections**

Caused by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*; *Enterobacter* species; *Proteus* species (indole positive and negative); *Klebsiella* species, and *Escherichia coli*.

Due to the nature of the underlying conditions which usually predispose patients to *Pseudomonas* infections of the lower respiratory and urinary tracts, a good clinical response accompanied by bacterial eradication may not be achieved despite evidence of *in vitro* sensitivity.

**Skin Structure Infections**

Caused by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*; *Klebsiella* species; *Escherichia coli*; *Proteus mirabilis*; *Enterobacter* species; *Staphylococcus aureus*, including ampicillin-resistant (but not methicillin-resistant) strains; and *Streptococcus pyogenes*.

**Bacteremia/Septicemia**

Caused by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*; *Klebsiella* species; *Escherichia coli*; *Serratia* species; *Streptococcus pneumoniae*; *Staphylococcus aureus*, including ampicillinresistant (but not methicillin-resistant) strains; and *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

**Bone Infections**

Caused by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*; *Proteus mirabilis*; *Enterobacter* species; and *Staphylococcus aureus*, including ampicillin-resistant (but not methicillin-resistant) strains.

**Peritonitis**

Caused by *Escherichia coli*; *Klebsiella* species; and *Peptostreptococcus* species. Patients infected with *Bacteroides* species have also responded.

**Meningitis**

Caused by *Haemophilus influenzae* and *Neisseria meningitidis*. Ceftazidime for Injection BP has also been used successfully in a limited number of cases of meningitis due to *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

Specimens for bacteriologic culture should be obtained prior to therapy in order to identify the causative organisms and to determine their susceptibilities to Ceftazidime for Injection BP. Therapy may be instituted before results of susceptibility testing are known. However, modification of the treatment may be required once these results become available.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Ceftazidime for Injection BP is contraindicated for patients who have shown hypersensitivity to ceftazidime or the cephalosporin group of antibiotics.

**WARNINGS**

Before therapy with Ceftazidime for Injection BP is instituted, careful enquiry should be made to determine whether the patient has had previous hypersensitivity reactions to ceftazidime, cephalosporins, penicillins, or other drugs. Ceftazidime for Injection BP should be administered with caution to any patient who has demonstrated some form of allergy, particularly to drugs. Special care is indicated in patients who have experienced an allergic reaction to penicillins or other beta-lactams. If an allergic reaction to Ceftazidime for Injection BP occurs, treatment should be discontinued and standard agents (e.g. epinephrine, antihistamines, corticosteroids) administered as necessary.

***Clostridium difficile*-Associated Disease**

*Clostridium difficile*-associated disease (CDAD) has been reported with use of many antibacterial agents, including ceftazidime. CDAD may range in severity from mild diarrhea to fatal colitis. It is important to consider this diagnosis in patients who present with diarrhea, or symptoms of colitis, pseudomembranous colitis, toxic megacolon, or perforation of colon subsequent to the administration of any antibacterial agent. CDAD has been reported to occur over 2 months after the administration of antibacterial agents.

Treatment with antibacterial agents may alter the normal flora of the colon and may permit overgrowth of *Clostridium difficile*. *C. difficile* produces toxins A and B, which contribute to the development of CDAD. CDAD may cause significant morbidity and mortality. CDAD can be refractory to antimicrobial therapy.

If the diagnosis of CDAD is suspected or confirmed, appropriate therapeutic measures should be initiated. Mild cases of CDAD usually respond to discontinuation of antibacterial agents not directed against *Clostridium difficile*. In moderate to severe cases, consideration should be given to management with fluids and electrolytes, protein supplementation, and treatment with an antibacterial agent clinically effective against *Clostridium difficile*. Surgical evaluation should be instituted as clinically indicated, as surgical intervention may be required in certain severe cases (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**).

**Hemolytic Anemia**

**CEFTAZIDIME FOR INJECTION BP SHOULD NOT BE USED IN PATIENTS WITH A HISTORY OF CEPHALOSPORIN-ASSOCIATED HEMOLYTIC ANEMIA SINCE THE RECURRENCE OF HEMOLYSIS IS MUCH MORE SEVERE.**

An immune mediated hemolytic anemia has been observed in patients receiving cephalosporin class antibacterials, including ceftazidime. Severe cases of hemolytic anemia, including fatalities, have been reported in both adults and children. If a patient develops anemia anytime during, or within 2-3 weeks subsequent to the administration of Ceftazidime for Injection BP, the diagnosis of a cephalosporin-associated amenia should be considered and the drug discontinued until the etiology is determined.

Patients may benefit from periodic monitoring for signs and symptoms of hemolytic anemia, including measurement of hematologic parameters or drug-induced antibody testing, where appropriate (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**).

**PRECAUTIONS**

Ceftazidime for Injection BP should be administered with caution to individuals with a history of gastrointestinal disease, particularly colitis.

Patients with impaired renal function (i.e. creatinine clearance of 50mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> or less) should be placed on the special dosage schedule for Ceftazidime for Injection BP recommended under **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**. Normal dosages in these individuals are likely to produce excessive serum concentrations of ceftazidime. Elevated levels of ceftazidime in these patients could lead to convulsions.

The concomitant administration of aminoglycosides and some cephalosporins has caused nephrotoxicity. Although transient elevations of BUN and serum creatinine have been observed in clinical studies, there is no evidence that Ceftazidime for Injection

BP, when administered alone, is significantly nephrotoxic. However, the effect of administering Ceftazidime for Injection BP concomitantly with aminoglycosides is not known. Studies suggest that the concomitant use of potent diuretics, such as furosemide and ethacrynic acid, may increase the risk of renal toxicity with cephalosporins.

Ceftazidime is eliminated via the kidneys, therefore the dosage should be reduced according to the degree of renal impairment. Neurological sequelae have occasionally been reported when the dose has not been reduced appropriately (see **Dosage in Impaired Renal Function** and see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**).

Prolonged treatment with Ceftazidime for Injection BP may result in the overgrowth of nonsusceptible organisms, including species originally sensitive to the drug. Repeated evaluation of the patient's condition is essential. If superinfection occurs during therapy, appropriate measures should be taken.

Development of resistance during the administration of Ceftazidime for Injection BP has been observed for *Staphylococcus aureus*, members of the *Enterobacteriaceae* family, *Acinetobacter* species, *Pseudomonas* species, and *Serratia* species.

Chloramphenicol is antagonistic *in vitro* with ceftazidime and other cephalosporins. The clinical relevance of this finding is unknown, but if concurrent administration of ceftazidime with chloramphenicol is proposed, the possibility of antagonism should be considered.

In common with other antibiotics, ceftazidime may affect the gut flora, leading to lower estrogen reabsorption and reduced efficacy of combined oral contraceptives.

**Pregnancy**

The safety of ceftazidime in pregnancy has not been established. The use of ceftazidime in pregnant women requires that the likely benefit from the drug be weighed against the possible risk to the mother and fetus.

Reproduction studies have been performed in mice and rats employing ceftazidime doses of up to 25 times those usually administered to humans. These studies have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm of the fetus caused by ceftazidime. Animal reproduction studies, however, are not always predictive of human response.

**Nursing Mothers**

Ceftazidime is excreted in human milk in low concentrations (3.8 - 5.2 mg/L). The clinical significance of this is unknown, therefore, caution should be exercised when ceftazidime is administered to a nursing mother.

**Elderly Patients**

The elimination of ceftazidime may be reduced due to impairment of renal function.

**Drug-Laboratory Test Interactions**

Ceftazidime may cause a false-positive reaction for glucose in the urine with copper reduction tests (Benedict’s or Fehling’s solution). As a false-negative result may occur in the ferricyanide test, it is recommended that either glucose oxidase or hexokinase method be used to determine blood plasma glucose levels in patients receiving Ceftazidime for Injection BP.

Ceftazidime does not interfere in the alkaline picrate assay for creatinine. A positive Coombs’ test has been reported during treatment with cephalosporins. This phenomenon can interfere with cross matching of blood.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

The most common adverse effects have been local reactions following intravenous injection, allergic reactions, and gastrointestinal reactions. Other adverse effects have been encountered less frequently.

**Local (2.8% of patients):** Thrombophlebitis or phlebitis and pain with intravenous administration. Pain after intramuscular injection.

**Hypersensitivity (2.7% of patients):** Pruritus, urticaria, allergic exanthema, and fever.

**Gastrointestinal (<4% of patients):** Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, colitis and abdominal pain. Pseudomembranous colitis has been reported (see **WARNINGS**). Oral thrush has been reported very rarely.

**Central Nervous (<1% of patients):** Headache, dizziness, hallucinations, and lethargy. There have been reports of neurological sequelae including tremor, myoclonia, convulsions encephalopathy and coma occurring in patients with renal impairment in whom the dose of ceftazidime has not been appropriately reduced.

**Renal (<1% of patients):** Transient elevations of blood urea, blood urea nitrogen and serum creatinine.

**Hepatic (<4% of patients):** Transient elevations of serum bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, LDH, SGOT, SGPT and GGT.

**Hematopoietic:** Eosinophilia (3.4%), positive Direct Coombs’ Test (5.1%), and with an incidence of <1%: thrombocytosis, transient leukopenia, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia (see **WARNINGS**).

**Miscellaneous (<1% of patients):** Blurred vision, flushing, candidiasis, and vaginitis.

**POST-MARKETING EXPERIENCE WITH CEFTAZIDIME**

In addition to adverse events reported during clinical trials, the following events have been identified during clinical practice in patients treated with ceftazidime and were reported spontaneously. Because these reactions were reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not possible to reliably estimate their frequency.

**Blood and lymphatic system disorders:** Lymphocytosis, haemolytic anaemia, and agranulocytosis.

**Immune system disorders:** Anaphylaxis (including bronchospasm and/or hypotension).

**Nervous system disorders:** Paraesthesia.

**Gastrointestinal disorders:** Bad taste.

**Hepatobiliary disorders:** Jaundice.

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:** Angioedema, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, and toxic epidermal necrolysis.

**SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT OF OVERDOSAGE**

<p>For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional Poison Control Centre.</p>
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Overdosage of cephalosporins can lead to neurological sequelae including encephalopathy, convulsions and coma. Excessive serum levels of ceftazidime can be reduced by hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis.

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Ceftazidime for Injection BP may be administered either intravenously or intramuscularly after reconstitution.

Dosage and route of administration should be determined by severity of infection, susceptibility of the causative organism(s), and condition of the patient. The intravenous route is preferable for patients with septicemia, peritonitis 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 pending.

The usual duration of treatment is 7 to 14 days. For Streptococcal infections, therapy should be continued for at least 10 days.

**Adults**

The recommended daily dosage of Ceftazidime for Injection BP is 0.5 to 6 grams administered in equally divided doses every 8 to 12 hours (see Table 1).

Table 1		
Type of Infection	Daily Dose in Grams	Frequency and Route
uncomplicated pneumonia or skin structure infection	1.5 – 3.0	0.5 – 1.0 g i.m. or i.v. q8h
uncomplicated urinary tract infections	0.5	250 mg i.m. or i.v. q12h
complicated urinary tract infections	1.0 – 1.5	500 mg i.m. or i.v. q8h or q12h
bone infections	4.0	g i.v. q12h
peritonitis or septicemia	6.0	2 g i.v. q8h
meningitis	6.0	2 g i.v. q8h

For the treatment of infections caused by *Staphylococcus* species, a dosage of 1 or 2 g administered every 8 hours is recommended. For the treatment of infections (except those confined to the urinary tract) caused by *Enterobacter* species, a dosage of at least 1 g administered every 8 hours is recommended.

**Children**

Table 2		
Type of Infection	Age Group	Dosage
Infections other than meningitis	1 month – 2 months	25 – 50 mg/kg i.v. q12h to a maximum of 6 g/day
	2 months – 12 years	30 – 50 mg/kg i.v. q8h to a maximum of 6 g/day
Meningitis	1 month – 12 years	50 mg/kg i.v. q8h to a maximum of 6 g/day

The maximum daily dose in children is 6 g.

**Neonates (aged 0-28 days)**

In children aged one month or less the recommended dose is 25-50 mg/kg of Ceftazidime for Injection BP given twice daily.

Data indicates that half-life of ceftazidime in neonates increases with decreasing gestational age and can be 3-4 times that in adults. An adjustment in dosing interval may be necessary with an increasing degree of prematurity. Additionally, clearance may increase rapidly in the first 2-3 weeks of life necessitating a readjustment of dose and/or dosing interval.

**Use in Elderly**

In acutely ill elderly patients with reduced renal clearance of ceftazidime, the daily dosage should not exceed 3 g.

**Impaired Hepatic Function**

No adjustment in dosage is required for patients with hepatic dysfunction provided renal function is not impaired (see **PHARMACOLOGY**).

**Adults with Impaired Renal Function**

Ceftazidime is excreted almost exclusively by glomerular filtration. In patients in whom the glomerular filtration rate (GFR) is less than or equal to 50 mL/min (0.83 mL/s), the dosage of Ceftazidime for Injection BP must be reduced to compensate for its slower excretion. After an initial loading dose of 1g of Ceftazidime for Injection BP, a maintenance dosage schedule should be followed (see Table 3).

Table 3: Recommended Maintenance Doses of Ceftazidime for Injection BP Renal Insufficiency				
Creatinine Clearance	Recommended Unit Dose of Ceftazidime for Injection BP		Frequency of Dosing*	
	mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	mL/s/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>		
31 – 50	0.51 – 0.83	1 g	1.5 g	q12h
16 – 30	0.26 – 0.50	1 g	1.5 g	q24h
6 – 15	0.10 – 0.25	500 mg	750 mg	q24h
<5	<0.09	500 mg	750 mg	q48h

\*If the severity of the infection necessitates an increase in the dosing frequency, serum concentrations of ceftazidime should be used as guidelines.

When only serum creatinine levels are known, the following formulae may be used to estimate creatinine clearance. The serum creatinine must represent a steady state of renal function:

**Males**

$$\text{Creatinine clearance (mL/s)} = \frac{\text{Weight (kg)} \times (140 - \text{age})}{49 \times \text{serum creatinine } (\mu\text{mol/L})}$$

OR

$$\text{Creatinine clearance (mL/min)} = \frac{\text{Weight (kg)} \times (140 - \text{age})}{72 \times \text{serum creatinine (mg/dL)}}$$

**Females** 0.85 X above value.

Mean serum half-life of ceftazidime in patients with no kidney function was reduced from a range of 24.0 - 35.4 h between dialysis sessions to a range of 2.8 - 4.6 h during hemodialysis. Therefore a loading dose of 1 g is recommended followed by 0.5 to 1.0 g after each hemodialysis period. Serum concentrations of ceftazidime should be carefully monitored and used as a basis to adjust the dosage.

Ceftazidime for Injection BP can also be used in patients undergoing peritoneal dialysis and continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis. In such patients, a loading dose of Ceftazidime for Injection BP (1 g) is suggested, followed by 500 mg every 24 hours. Serum concentrations of ceftazidime should be carefully monitored and used as a basis to adjust the dosage.

**ADMINISTRATION**

**Intramuscular**

Ceftazidime for Injection BP may be administered by deep intramuscular injection into a large muscle mass such as the upper outer quadrant of the gluteus maximus or vastus lateralis. The maximum dose of Ceftazidime for Injection BP should be one (1) gram for a single intramuscular injection.

**Intermittent Intravenous Administration**

The reconstituted solution may be slowly injected into the vein over a period of 3 to 5 minutes or given through the tubing of an administration set. During the infusion of the solution containing Ceftazidime for Injection BP, the administration of other solutions should be discontinued temporarily.

**Continuous Intravenous Infusion**

Ceftazidime for Injection BP may also be administered over a longer period of time.

NOTE: If therapy with Ceftazidime for Injection BP is carried out in combination with an aminoglycoside antibiotic, each should be administered at different sites because of a physical incompatibility. An aminoglycoside should not be mixed with Ceftazidime for Injection BP in the same container.

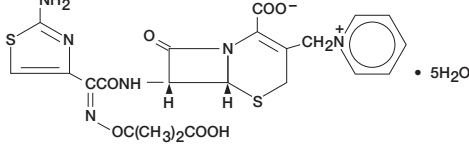
**PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION**

**CHEMISTRY**

**Proper Name:** Ceftazidime pentahydrate

**Chemical Name:** Pyridinium, 1-[7-[[[2-amino-4-thiazolyl]](1-carboxy-1-methylethoxy)imino] acetyl]amino]-2-carboxy-8-oxo-5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-en-3-yl] methyl]-hydroxide, inner salt, pentahydrate, [6R- [6c., 7β(2Z)]

**Structural Formula:**



**Molecular Formula:** C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S<sub>2</sub> • 5H<sub>2</sub>O

**Molecular Weight:** 636.6 (as pentahydrate)

**Description:** Ceftazidime pentahydrate is a white to cream-coloured powder. It is soluble in acid, alkali and dimethyl sulfoxide; slightly soluble in water, methanol and dimethylformamide; insoluble in 95% ethanol, ethyl acetate, acetone, 1, -4-dioxan, diethyl ether, toluene, petroleum spirit and chloroform.

**Composition**

Ceftazidime for Injection BP vials contain a mixture of ceftazidime pentahydrate and sodium carbonate. When constituted, this mixture provides a solution of ceftazidime sodium.

The sodium carbonate at a concentration of 118 mg/g of ceftazidime activity has been admixed to facilitate dissolution. The total sodium content of the mixture is approximately 54 mg (2.3 mEq/g of ceftazidime activity).

Solutions of Ceftazidime for Injection BP range in colour from light yellow to amber, depending upon the diluent and volume used. The pH of freshly reconstituted solutions usually ranges from 5.0 to 7.5.

**RECONSTITUTION**

CAUTION: Ensure adequate venting, addition of diluent generates a positive pressure.

**For Intramuscular Use**

**Solutions for Reconstitution**

Sterile Water for Injection or, if required Bacteriostatic Water for Injection with Benzyl Alcohol (not for use in neonates), 0.5 w/v to 1.0% w/v Lidocaine Hydrochloride Injection.

Reconstitution Table			
Vial Size	Diluent to be added to Vial	Approximate Available Volume	Approximate Average Concentration
1.0 g	3.0 mL	3.9 mL	280 mg/mL

Shake well until dissolved.

**For Intravenous Use**

**Solution for Reconstitution**

Sterile Water for Injection

Reconstitute as follows:

Reconstitution Table			
Vial Size	Diluent to be added to Vial	Approximate Available Volume	Approximate Average Concentration
1.0 g	10 mL	10.9 mL	100 mg/mL
2.0 g	10 mL	11.7 mL	175 mg/mL

Shake well until dissolved. The prepared solution may be further diluted to the desired volume with any of the solutions listed under “Solutions for i.v. Infusion”.

**For Direct Intravenous Injection**

Reconstitute as directed above.

**For Intermittent Intravenous Infusion**

Reconstitute as directed above for 1.0 g and 2.0 g vials of Ceftazidime for Injection BP.

**For Continuous Intravenous Infusion**

Reconstitute 1.0 g and 2.0 g vials of Ceftazidime for Injection BP with 10 mL Sterile Water for Injection. The appropriate quantity of the reconstituted solution may be added to an intravenous bottle containing any of the solutions listed under “Solutions for i.v. Infusion”.

**3.0 g and 6.0 g Pharmacy Bulk Vial**

THE AVAILABILITY OF THE PHARMACY BULK VIALS ARE RESTRICTED TO HOSPITALS WITH A RECOGNIZED INTRAVENOUS ADMIXTURE PROGRAM.

Ceftazidime for Injection BP does not contain any preservatives. The Pharmacy Bulk Vials are intended for multiple dispensing for intravenous use only, employing a single puncture. Reconstitute with 13 mL and 26 mL Sterile Water for Injection for the 3.0 g and 6.0 g vials, respectively.

Reconstitution Table			
Vial Size	Diluent to be added to Vial	Approximate Available Volume	Approximate Average Concentration
3.0 g	13 mL		



