



## PIPERACILLIN AND TAZOBACTAM FOR INJECTION

### Piperacillin Sodium/Tazobactam Sodium

#### PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

##### SUMMARY PRODUCT INFORMATION

Route of Administration	Dosage Form / Strength	Clinically Relevant Nonmedicinal Ingredients
Intravenous	Lyophilized Powder for Injection 2.25 g/50 mL (2 piperacillin as piperacillin sodium, 0.25 g tazobactam as tazobactam sodium) 3.375 g/75 mL (3 g piperacillin as piperacillin sodium, 0.375 g tazobactam as tazobactam sodium) 4.5 g/100 mL (4 g piperacillin as piperacillin sodium, 0.5 g tazobactam as tazobactam sodium) 13.5 g/300 mL (12 g piperacillin as piperacillin sodium, 1.5 g tazobactam as tazobactam sodium) 40.5 g/900 mL (36 g piperacillin as piperacillin sodium, 4.5 g tazobactam as tazobactam sodium)	None

##### INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE

Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection (sterile piperacillin sodium/tazobactam sodium) is indicated for the treatment of patients with systemic and/or local bacterial infections, caused by piperacillin-resistant, piperacillin/tazobactam susceptible,  $\beta$ -lactamase producing strains of the designated microorganisms in the specified conditions listed below:

- INTRA-ABDOMINAL INFECTIONS**  
Appendicitis (complicated by rupture or abscess) and peritonitis caused by piperacillin-resistant,  $\beta$ -lactamase producing strains of aerobic coliform or members of the *Bacteroides fragilis* group.
- SKIN AND SKIN STRUCTURE INFECTIONS**  
Uncomplicated and complicated skin and skin structure infections, including cellulitis, cutaneous abscess, acute ischemic/diabetic foot infections caused by piperacillin resistant  $\beta$ -lactamase producing strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* not methicillin-resistant strains.
- GYNECOLOGICAL INFECTIONS**  
Postpartum endometritis or pelvic inflammatory disease caused by piperacillin resistant,  $\beta$ -lactamase producing strains of *Escherichia coli*.
- COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED LOWER RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS**  
Community-acquired pneumonia (not severely ill) caused by piperacillin resistant,  $\beta$ -lactamase producing strains of *Haemophilus influenzae*.
- NOSOCOMIAL PNEUMONIA**  
Nosocomial pneumonia (moderate to severe) caused by piperacillin-resistant,  $\beta$ -lactamase producing strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* and piperacillin/tazobactam-susceptible *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (Nosocomial pneumonia caused by *P. aeruginosa* should be treated in combination with an aminoglycoside) (see **DOSSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

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

While Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection is indicated only for the conditions listed above, infections caused by piperacillin susceptible organisms are also amenable to Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection treatment due to its piperacillin component of this combination product does not decrease the activity of the piperacillin component against piperacillin susceptible organisms. Therefore, the treatment of polymicrobial infections caused by piperacillin susceptible organisms and  $\beta$ -lactamase producing organisms susceptible to Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection should not require the addition of another antibiotic.

Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection may be useful as presumptive therapy in the indicated conditions prior to identification of causative organisms because of its broad spectrum of bactericidal activity against gram-positive and gram-negative aerobic and anaerobic organisms.

Appropriate cultures should usually be performed before initiating antimicrobial treatment in order to isolate and identify the organisms causing infection and to determine their susceptibility to Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection. Antimicrobial therapy should be adjusted, if appropriate, once results of cultures) and antimicrobial susceptibility testing are known.

**Geriatrics (> 65 years of age):**  
Patients over 65 years of age are not at an increased risk of developing adverse effects solely because of age. However, dosage should be adjusted in the presence of renal insufficiency (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Special Populations, Geriatrics** and **DOSSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment, Renal Insufficiency**).

**Pediatrics (< 12 years of age):**  
Safety and efficacy in children below the age of 12 years have not been established (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Special Populations, Pediatrics**).

##### CONTRAINDICATIONS

The use of Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection (sterile piperacillin sodium/tazobactam sodium) is contraindicated in:

- Patients who are hypersensitive to this drug or to any ingredient in the formulation or component of its container. For a complete listing, see the **DOSSAGE FORMS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING** section.
- Patients with a history of allergic reactions to any of the penicillins and/or cephalosporins or  $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitors.

##### WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

###### Serious Warnings and Precautions

- Serious and occasionally fatal hypersensitivity (anaphylactoid) reaction, anaphylactic reaction, anaphylactoid shock, anaphylactic shock reactions have been reported in individuals receiving therapy with penicillins. These reactions are more apt to occur in individuals with a history of sensitivity to multiple allergens. There have been reports of individuals with a history of penicillin hypersensitivity who have experienced severe hypersensitivity reactions when treated with cephalosporins.
- Before initiating therapy with Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection, careful inquiry should be made concerning previous hypersensitivity reactions to penicillins, cephalosporins, or other allergens. If an allergic reaction occurs during therapy with Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection, the antibiotic should be discontinued and appropriate therapy instituted. Serious anaphylactoid reactions require immediate emergency treatment with epinephrine, oxygen and intravenous steroids and airway management, including intubation, should also be administered as indicated.

##### General

As with other semisynthetic penicillins, piperacillin therapy has been associated with an increased incidence of fever and rash in cyclic fibrosis patients.

Because of chemical instability, Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection should not be used for intravenous administration with solutions containing only sodium bicarbonate (see **DOSSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, Administration, Reconstitution**).

Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection should not be added to blood products or albumin hydrolysates. The use of Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection with other drugs may lead to drug-drug interactions (see **DRUG INTERACTIONS, Drug-Drug Interactions**).

##### Ability to Drive and Use Machines

No studies on the effect of ability to drive or use machines have been performed.

##### Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis

Long-term carcinogenicity studies in animals have not been conducted with piperacillin/tazobactam, piperacillin, or tazobactam.

##### Gastrointestinal

**Clostridium difficile-Associated Disease**  
Clostridium difficile-associated disease (CDAD) has been reported with use of many antibacterial agents, including Piperacillin and Tazobactam. 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*. *Clostridium 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 support 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**).

##### Hematology

Bleeding manifestations or significant leukopenia following prolonged administration have occurred in some patients receiving  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics, including piperacillin. These reactions have sometimes been associated with abnormalities of coagulation tests such as clotting time, platelet aggregation and prothrombin time and are more likely to occur in patients with renal failure. If bleeding manifestations occur, the antibiotic should be discontinued and appropriate therapy instituted. Leukopenia and neutropenia may occur, especially during prolonged therapy. Therefore, periodic assessment of hematopoietic function should be performed (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Monitoring and Laboratory Tests**).

##### Neurology

As with other penicillins, patients may experience neuromuscular excitability or convulsions if higher than recommended doses are given intravenously (particularly in the presence of renal failure).

##### Renal

In patients with creatinine clearance <40 mL/min and dialysis patients (hemodialysis and chronic ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD)), the intravenous dose should be adjusted to the degree of renal impairment (see **DOSSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment, Renal Insufficiency**). Also see **Hematologic and Neurologic** above.

##### Sexual Function/Reproduction

Studies in animals have shown reproductive and developmental toxicity in rats at maternally toxic doses when administered intravenously or intraperitoneally but have not shown teratogenicity of the piperacillin/tazobactam combination when administered intravenously.

##### Skin Reactions

Serious skin reactions, such as Stevens-Johnson Syndrome (SJS), Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis (TEN) and Drug Reactions with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS) have been reported in patients receiving piperacillin/tazobactam (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**). If patients develop a skin rash they should be monitored closely and piperacillin/tazobactam discontinued if lesions progress.

##### Susceptibility/Resistance

The possibility of the emergence of resistant organisms that might cause superinfections should be in mind. If this occurs, appropriate measures should be taken.

Prescribing Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection in the absence of a proven or strongly suspected bacterial infection is unlikely to provide benefit to the patient and risks the development of drug-resistant bacteria.

##### Special Populations

**Pregnant Women:** Studies in animals have shown reproductive and developmental toxicity, but no evidence of teratogenicity, at doses that are maternally toxic. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies with the piperacillin/tazobactam combination or with piperacillin or tazobactam alone in pregnant women. Piperacillin and tazobactam cross the placenta. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response pregnant women should be treated with Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection only if the expected benefit outweighs the possible risks to the pregnant woman and fetus.

**Nursing Women:** Caution should be exercised when Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection is administered to nursing mothers. Piperacillin is excreted in low concentrations in human milk; tazobactam concentrations in milk have not been studied. Women who are breast-feeding should be treated only if the expected benefit outweighs the possible risks to the woman and child.

**Pediatrics (< 12 years of age):** Safety and efficacy in children below the age of 12 have not been established. **Geriatrics (> 65 years of age):** Patients over 65 years of age are not at an increased risk of developing adverse effects solely because of age. However, dosage should be adjusted in the presence of renal insufficiency (see **DOSSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment, Renal Insufficiency**).

In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be approached with caution, usually starting at the low end of the dosing range, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection contains 54.28 mg (2.36 mEq) of sodium per gram of piperacillin in the combination product. At the usual recommended doses, patients would receive between 651 and 866 mg/day (28.3 and 37.7 mEq) of sodium. The geriatric population may respond with a blunted natriuresis to salt loading. This may be clinically important with regard to diseases such as congestive heart failure.

Piperacillin/tazobactam 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. Elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function and therefore care should be taken in dose selection. It may be useful to monitor renal function.

##### Monitoring and Laboratory Tests

Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection contains a total of 2.36 mEq (54.28 mg) of sodium (Na<sup>+</sup>) per gram of piperacillin in the combination product. It should be considered when treating patients requiring restricted salt intake. Periodic electrolyte determinations should be performed in patients with low potassium reserves, and the possibility of hypokalemia should be kept in mind with patients who have potentially low potassium reserves and who are receiving cytotoxic therapy or diuretics. Periodic assessment of hematopoietic function should be performed, especially with prolonged therapy (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hematologic and ADVERSE REACTIONS, Abnormal Hematologic and Clinical Chemistry Findings**).

Coagulation parameters should be tested more frequently and monitored regularly, during simultaneous administration of Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection and high doses of heparin, oral anticoagulants and/or other drugs that may affect the blood coagulation system and/or the thrombolytic function (see **DRUG INTERACTIONS, Drug-Drug Interactions**).

Piperacillin may reduce the excretion of methotrexate. Therefore, to avoid drug toxicity, serum levels of methotrexate should be monitored in patients simultaneously treated with Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection and methotrexate (see **DRUG INTERACTIONS, Drug-Drug Interactions**).

##### ADVERSE REACTIONS

###### Clinical Trial Adverse Drug Reactions

Because clinical trials are conducted under very specific conditions the adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials may not reflect the rates observed in practice and should not be compared to the rates in the clinical trials of another drug. Adverse drug reaction information from clinical trials is useful for identifying drug-related adverse events and for approximating rates.

###### Clinical Trials (except Nosocomial Pneumonia)

During the clinical investigations, 2621 patients worldwide were treated with piperacillin/tazobactam in phase IIb trials. In the key North American clinical trials (n=830 patients), 90% of the adverse events reported were mild to moderate in severity and transient in nature. However, in 3.2% of the patients treated worldwide, piperacillin/tazobactam was discontinued because of adverse events primarily involving the skin (1.3%), including rash and pruritus; the gastrointestinal system (0.9%), including diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting; and allergic reactions (0.5%).

Adverse local reactions that were reported, irrespective of relationship to therapy with piperacillin/tazobactam, were phlebitis (1.3%), injection site reactions (0.5%), pain (0.2%), inflammation (0.2%), thrombophlebitis (0.2%), and edema (0.1%).

Based on patients from the North American trials (n=1063), the events with the highest incidence in patients, irrespective of relationship to piperacillin/tazobactam therapy, were diarrhea (11.3%), headache (7.7%), constipation (7.7%), nausea (6.9%), vomiting (6.9%), rash (6.2%), abdominal pain (5.6%), urticaria, and eczematoid, vomiting (3.3%), dyspepsia (3.3%), pruritus (3.1%), stool changes (1.4%); fever (2.4%); agitation (2.1%); pain (1.7%); moniliasis (1.6%); peritonitis (1.6%); dizziness (1.4%); abnormal pain (1.3%); chest pain (1.3%); edema (1.2%); anxiety (1.2%); hinitis (1.2%); and dyspnea (1.1%).

###### Nosocomial Pneumonia Trials

In a completed study of nosocomial pneumonia, 222 patients were treated with piperacillin sodium/tazobactam in a dosing regimen of 4.5 g every 6 hours in combination with an aminoglycoside and 213 patients were treated with a comparator in combination with an aminoglycoside. In this trial, treatment response rates were similar for 402 patients (204 (91.9%) in the piperacillin/tazobactam group and 198 (92.1%) in the comparator group. Twenty-five (25.16%) patients in the piperacillin/tazobactam group and 14 (6.5%) in the comparator group (p > 0.05) discontinued treatment due to an adverse event. In this study of piperacillin sodium/tazobactam sodium in combination with an aminoglycoside, adverse events that occurred in more than 1% of patients and were considered by the investigator to be drug related were: diarrhea (17.8%), fever (2.7%), vomiting (2.7%), urinary tract infection (2.7%), rash (2.5%), abdominal pain (1.8%), generalized edema (1.8%), peripheral edema (1.8%), nausea (1.8%), oral moniliasis (1.8%), BUN increased (1.8%), creatinine increased (1.8%), meningitis (1.8%), abdomen enlarged (1.4%), constipation (1.4%), constipation/abnormal bowel function tests abnormal (1.4%), thrombocytopenia (1.4%), exothermia (1.4%), and sweating (1.4%).

These were coded under the COSTART term skin necrosis in CSR-44881, Supportive Table 10-3.

###### Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Drug Reactions (≤ 1%)

**Clinical Trials (except Nosocomial Pneumonia)**  
Additional adverse systemic clinical events reported in 1.0% or less of the patients are listed below within each body system:

**Blood and lymphatic system disorders:** mesenteric ischemia, purpura, epistaxis, pulmonary embolism (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hematologic**).

**Cardiac disorders:** tachycardia, including supraventricular and ventricular; bradycardia; arrhythmia, including atrial fibrillation, ventricular fibrillation, cardiac arrest, cardiac failure, circulatory failure, myocardial infarction.

**Ear and labyrinth disorders:** vertigo, tinnitus.

**Eye disorders:** photophobia.

**Gastrointestinal disorders:** ileus, melena, flatulence, hemorrhage, gastritis, hiccough, ulcerative stomatitis. Pseudomembranous colitis was reported in one patient during the clinical trials. The onset of pseudomembranous colitis symptoms may occur during or over 2 months after the administration of antibiotic treatment (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Gastrointestinal**).

**General disorders and administration site conditions:** rigors, malaise, thirst.

**Hepatitis disorders:** jaundice.

**Immune system disorders:** anaphylaxis (including shock), incidence of rash and fever is higher in patients with cyclic fibrosis.

**Infections and infestations:** candidiasis, vaginitis, pharyngitis.

**Metabolic and nutrition disorders:** hypokalemia, hypomagnesemia, hypophosphatemia.

**Musculoskeletal and connective tissue and bone disorders:** myalgia, arthralgia, back pain.

**Nervous system disorders:** syncope, tremor, convulsions, taste perversion.

**Psychiatric disorders:** confusion, hallucination, depression.

**Renal and urinary disorders:** retention, dysuria, oliguria, hematuria, incontinence.

**Reproductive system and breast disorders:** leucorrhea, genital pruritus.

**Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders:** pulmonary edema, bronchospasm, coughing.

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:** diaphoresis, toxic epidermal necrolysis.

**Vascular disorders:** flushing, hypotension.

**Nosocomial Pneumonia Trial**  
Drug-related adverse events reported in 1% or less of patients in the nosocomial pneumonia study of piperacillin/tazobactam with an aminoglycoside were: acidosis, acute kidney failure, agitation, alkaline phosphatase increased, anemia, asthenia, atrial fibrillation, chest pain, CNS depression, colitis, confusion, constipation, cough, decreased thrombocyte, dehydration, depression, diplopia, drug level decreased, dry mouth, dyspepsia, dysphagia, dyspnea, dysuria, eosinophilia, fungal dermatitis, gastritis, glossitis, grand mal convulsion, hematuria, hyperglycemia, hypemagnesemia, hypertension, hyperventilation, hypoketonic anemia, hypokalemia, hypokalaemia, hypophosphatemia, hypoxia, ileus.

**Injection site edema, injection site pain, injection site reactions:** kidney function abnormal, leukocytosis, leukopenia, local reaction to procedure, melena, pain, prothrombin decreased, pruritus, respiratory disorder, AST (SGOT) increased, ALT (SGPT) increased, sinus bradycardia, somnolence, stomatitis, stupor, tremor, tachycardia, ventricular extrasystoles, and ventricular tachycardia.

**Abnormal Hematology and Clinical Chemistry Findings**  
Changes in laboratory parameters, without regard to drug relationship, were reported in all studies, including studies of nosocomial pneumonia in which a higher dose of piperacillin and tazobactam for injection was used in combination with an aminoglycoside. The changes in laboratory parameters include:

**Hematologic:** agranulocytosis, pancytopenia, anemia, decreases in hemoglobin and hematocrit, thrombocytopenia, increases in platelet count, eosinophilia, leukopenia, neutropenia. The leukopenia/neutropenia associated with piperacillin sodium/tazobactam sodium administration appears to be reversible and most frequently associated with prolonged administration, i.e., > 21 days of therapy. These patients were withdrawn from therapy. Some patients also had leukocytosis.

**Coagulation:** positive direct Coombs test, prolonged prothrombin time, activated partial thromboplastin time prolonged, bleeding time prolonged.

**Hepatic:** increase of AST (SGOT), ALT (SGPT), alkaline phosphatase, blood bilirubin, gamma-glutamyltransferase.

**Renal:** increases in serum creatinine, blood urea nitrogen, renal failure.

**Urinalysis:** proteinuria, hematuria, pyuria.

Additional laboratory events include abnormalities in electrolytes (i.e., increases and decreases in sodium, potassium, and calcium), hyperglycemia, decreases in albumin, protein total decreased. In individuals with liver disease or those receiving cytotoxic therapy or diuretics, piperacillin sodium/tazobactam sodium has been associated rarely to produce abnormal liver function abnormalities of piperacillin.

The following adverse reactions have also been reported for PIPRACIL<sup>®</sup> (piperacillin sodium).

**Hepatitis disorders:** cholestatic hepatitis.

**Nervous system disorders:** prolonged muscle relaxation (see **DRUG INTERACTIONS, Drug-Drug Interactions, Vecuronium**).

**Renal and urinary disorders:** rarely tubulointerstitial nephritis.

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:** erythema multiforme and Stevens-Johnson syndrome, rarely reported.

**Post-Market Adverse Drug Reactions**  
Additional adverse events reported from worldwide marketing experience with piperacillin/tazobactam occurring under circumstances where causal relationship to piperacillin/tazobactam is uncertain:

**Blood and lymphatic system disorders:** hemolytic anemia, anemia, thrombocytosis, agranulocytosis, pancytopenia.

**Hepatitis disorders:** hepatitis, cholestatic jaundice.

**Immune system disorders:** hypersensitivity, anaphylactoid reaction, anaphylactic reaction, anaphylactoid shock, anaphylactic shock.

**Infections and infestations:** candidiasis.

**Renal and urinary disorders:** tubulointerstitial nephritis, renal failure.

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:** erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson Syndrome (SJS), Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis (TEN), Drug Reactions with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS), dermatitis bullous.

**DRUG INTERACTIONS**

**Drug-Drug Interactions**  
**Aminoglycosides**  
The mixing of beta-lactam antibiotics with aminoglycosides in vitro can result in substantial inactivation of the aminoglycoside. Therefore, Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection and the aminoglycoside must be administered separately, when concomitant therapy with aminoglycosides is indicated.

The inactivation of aminoglycosides in the presence of penicillin-class drugs has been recognized. It has been postulated that penicillin-aminoglycoside complexes form; these complexes are microbiologically inactive and of unknown toxicity. Sequential administration of piperacillin/tazobactam with tobramycin to patients with normal renal function and mild to moderate renal impairment has been shown to modestly decrease serum concentrations of tobramycin but does not significantly affect tobramycin pharmacokinetics. When aminoglycosides are administered in combination with piperacillin in patients with end-stage renal disease requiring hemodialysis, the concentrations of the aminoglycosides (especially tobramycin) may be significantly altered and should be monitored. Since aminoglycosides are not equally susceptible to inactivation by piperacillin, consideration should be given to the choice of the aminoglycoside when administered in combination with piperacillin to these patients.

**Vecuronium**  
Concomitant administration of piperacillin/tazobactam and vecuronium results in prolonged half-life of vecuronium (21%); and tazobactam (7%) and lower clearance for both piperacillin and tazobactam; however, peak plasma concentrations of either drug are unaffected.

**Vancocin<sup>®</sup>**  
No pharmacokinetic interactions are found between piperacillin/tazobactam and vancocin.

**Heparin**  
Coagulation parameters should be tested more frequently and monitored regularly, during simultaneous administration of high doses of heparin, oral anticoagulants and other drugs that may affect the blood coagulation system and/or the thrombolytic function (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Monitoring and Laboratory Tests**).

**Vecuronium**  
Piperacillin used concomitantly with vecuronium has been implicated in the prolongation of the neuromuscular blockade of vecuronium. Piperacillin/tazobactam could produce the same phenomenon

if given along with vecuronium. Due to their similar mechanism of action, it is expected that the neuromuscular blockade produced by any of the non-depolarizing muscle relaxants could be prolonged in the presence of piperacillin.

##### Methotrexate

Piperacillin may reduce the excretion of methotrexate; therefore, serum levels of methotrexate should be monitored in patients receiving concomitant therapy with Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection and methotrexate (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Monitoring and Laboratory Tests**).

##### Laboratory Tests

Where piperacillin/tazobactam is administered concurrently with another antibiotic the drugs should not be mixed in the same solution but must be administered separately.

##### Drug-Food Interactions

Interactions with food have not been established.

##### Drug-Drug Interactions

Interactions with herbal products have not been established.

##### Drug-Laboratory Interactions

As with other penicillins, the administration of piperacillin/tazobactam may result in a false-positive reaction for glucose in the urine using a copper-reduction method (CLINITEST<sup>®</sup>). It is recommended that glucose tests based on enzymatic glucose oxidase reactions (such as DIASTIX<sup>®</sup> or TES-TAPE<sup>®</sup>) be used.

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There have been reports of positive test results using the Bio-Rad Laboratories Platelia Aspergillus EA test in patients receiving piperacillin/tazobactam injection who were subsequently found to be free of Aspergillus infection. Cross-reactions with non-Aspergillus polysaccharides and polyuranes with Bio-Rad Laboratories Platelia Aspergillus EA test have not occurred. Therefore, positive test results in patients receiving piperacillin/tazobactam should be interpreted cautiously and confirmed by other diagnostic methods.

##### Drug-Lifestyle Interactions

Interactions with lifestyle have not been established.

##### DOSSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

**Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment**  
The usual total daily dose of Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection for adults is 3.375 g (3 piperacillin sodium/0.375 g tazobactam sodium) every six hours totaling 13.5 g (12 piperacillin sodium/1.5 g tazobactam sodium).

Clinical trial data in the treatment of intra-abdominal infections support the efficacy of 4.5 g piperacillin/tazobactam (4 g piperacillin sodium/0.5 g tazobactam sodium) given every eight hours.

##### Nosocomial Pneumonia