Cefixime - Use | Dosage | Side Effects

Cefixime is a drug that belongs to the family of medicines called third-generation cephalosporins. Cefixime is an antibiotic. It has a bactericidal effect (kills bacteria) which means that it fights against infections.

Cefixime is used in treatment of the following infections:

- Gonorrhea
- Urinary tract infections (cystitis, pyelonephritis)
- Respiratory tract infections (tonsillitis, sore throat, pneumonia, sinusitis, bacterial bronchitis)
- Middle ear infection (otitis media)

**Precautions**

Cefixime should be avoided in patients who are allergic to Cefixime and other similar medicines: ceftazidime, cefepime (Maxipime), cefadroxil, ceftriaxone (Longacef), cephalixin (Palitrex), cefotaxime, cefprozil, cefaclor, penicillin, ampicillin, amoxicillin, co-amoxiclav (Panklav). If you are experiencing symptoms of an allergy, such as: itching, redness, swelling of the face, swelling of the tongue, difficulty breathing, contact your doctor immediately.

Cefixime may cause pseudomembranous colitis (intestinal superinfection). If you experience diarrhea (which can be bloody), contact your doctor immediately, because diarrhea may be a sign that intestinal infection has occurred.

Cefixime should be used with extra precautions in patients with kidney disorders.
Use of Cefixime during pregnancy and breastfeeding

According to the US Agency for Food and Drug Administration, Cefixime belongs to group B (FDA: Group B). This means that animal studies have shown that Cefixime is safe for use during pregnancy in animals, but there are no studies on humans.

Cefixime is not recommended for use in pregnant and breastfeeding women without doctor's advice.

How to use

Cefixime can be taken regardless of food, because food does not change efficacy of Cefixime. However, it is recommended to take Cefixime with a meal.

The dosage depends on the type and severity of the infection.

The usual dose is 400 mg once a day or 200 mg twice a day (every 12 hours).

Cefixime can be used in children. The dose should be calculated according to the body weight of the child.

Use with other medicines (Interactions)

There are no known interactions with other medicines. If you are using medicines to neutralize stomach acid (so-called antacids), then you need to take Cefixime at least 90 minutes after taking antacids.

Tell your doctor about all medications and herbal medicines you are taking.

Side effects

Cefixime may cause the following side effects: flatulence (bloating), nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, pseudomembranous colitis (intestinal infection), headache, Steven-Johnson syndrome (a life-threatening skin disorder), vaginal fungal infection, vaginal itching, confusion, nausea, liver damage with increasing values of liver enzymes (AST and ALT) and jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes), flu-like symptoms (sore throat and fever), allergy and others.

Tell your doctor if you are experiencing any side effects.