



NEONATAL




CEFALEXIN

This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)

Unrestricted: Any prescriber may initiate treatment

Presentation	Oral Suspension: 250mg/5mL												
Classification	First generation cephalosporin antibiotic												
Indications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment of mild infections due to susceptible organisms • Prophylaxis of urinary tract infection in at risk patients 												
Dose	<p><u>Treatment of mild infections due to susceptible organisms</u></p> <p>Oral:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Postnatal age</th> <th>Dose</th> <th>Frequency</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><7 days</td> <td>25 mg/kg/dose</td> <td>Every 12 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7-21 days</td> <td>25 mg/kg/dose</td> <td>Every 8 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>21 days</td> <td>25 mg/kg/dose</td> <td>Every 6 hours</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Prophylaxis of urinary tract infections</u></p> <p>Oral:</p> <p>12.5mg/kg at night</p>	Postnatal age	Dose	Frequency	<7 days	25 mg/kg/dose	Every 12 hours	7-21 days	25 mg/kg/dose	Every 8 hours	>21 days	25 mg/kg/dose	Every 6 hours
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<7 days	25 mg/kg/dose	Every 12 hours											
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Monitoring	Monitor renal, hepatic and haematological function with prolonged use												
Dose Adjustment	Consider increasing dosing interval in significant renal impairment.												
Preparation	<p><u>Oral Cefalexin Sandoz® 250mg/5mL</u></p> <p>Refer to product packaging for reconstitution instructions for alternative brands.</p> <p>Invert bottle and tap to loosen granules</p> <p>Add 63mL of water for irrigation to the bottle.</p> <p>Shake well until dissolved.</p>												

Administration	Oral: Shake well prior to measuring mixture May be given anytime with regards to feeds
Adverse Reactions	Common: Diarrhoea, vomiting, rash, abdominal pain Serious: Anaphylactic reactions, neurotoxicity, blood dyscrasias, cholestatic hepatitis, antibiotic associated colitis
Storage	Powder for Reconstitution Store powder at room temperature - below 25°C Reconstituted Suspension Refrigerate. Do not freeze. Reconstituted solution should be discarded after 14 days
Notes	Use with caution in patients with hypersensitivity or mild adverse reactions to penicillins or carbapenems as cross-reactivity can occur (e.g. rash) Cefalexin may cause a false positive Coombs test
References	Cefalexin. In British national formulary for children Joint Formulary Committee (September 2018-19) <i>BNF 74: September 2018-19</i> . London: Pharmaceutical Press Australian Medicines Handbook. Cefalexin. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2019 [cited 2019 Sept 6]. Available from: https://amhonline.amh.net.au/

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