



SCHEDULING STATUS: S4

Proprietary names and dosage forms:

CEFAZOLIN 500 mg OETHMAAN Powder for injection

CEFAZOLIN 1 g OETHMAAN Powder for injection

Composition:

Each CEFALAZOLIN 500 mg OETHMAAN vial contains cefazolin sodium equivalent to 500 mg cefazolin. Each CEFALAZOLIN 1 g OETHMAAN vial contains cefazolin sodium equivalent to 1,0 g cefazolin.

CEFAZOLIN OETHMAAN (cefazolin sodium) is a semi synthetic cephalosporin for parenteral administration. Chemically, it is called Sodium(6R,7R)-3-[5-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl]sulphonyl)methyl]-8-oxo-7-(1H-tetrazol-1-ylacetyl)amino]-5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylate. The sodium content is 48,3 mg/g of cefazolin sodium. The molecular formula is $C_{14}H_{13}N_8NaO_4S_3$. The molecular mass is 476,5.

The pH of the reconstituted solution is between 4,0 and 6,0.

Pharmacological classification:

A 20.1.1 Broad and Medium Spectrum Antibiotics

Pharmacological action:

Human pharmacology: Table 1 demonstrates the mean serum levels and duration of cefazolin following intramuscular administration.

Table 1: Serum concentrations after intramuscular administration:

Dose	Serum Concentrations (μ g/ml)					
	½ hr	1 hr	2 hr	4 hr	6 hr	8 hr
250 mg	15,5	17	13	5,1	2,5	
500 mg	36,2	36,8	37,9	15,5	6,3	3
1 g*	60,1	63,8	54,3	29,3	13,2	7,1

* Average of two studies

In normal volunteers, constant intravenous infusion of cefazolin in doses of 3,5 mg/kg for one hour (approximately 250 mg), followed by 1,5 mg/kg for the next two hours (approximately 100 mg), produced a steady serum level of approximately 28 μ g/ml during the third hour. Table 2 shows the average serum concentrations following a single 1 g bolus intravenous injection. The average half life was 1,4 hours.

Table 2: Serum concentrations after a 1 g intravenous dose:

Time lapse after administration	Serum concentrations (μ g/ml)
5 minutes	188,4
15 minutes	135,8
30 minutes	106,8
1 hour	73,7
2 hours	45,6
4 hours	16,5

Cefazolin is excreted unchanged in the urine primarily by glomerular filtration and, to a lesser degree, by tubular secretion. Following an intramuscular injection of 500 mg, 56 % to 89 % of the administered dose is recovered within six hours and 80 % to nearly 100 % in 24 hours. Following the intramuscular administration of 500 mg and 1 g of cefazolin, peak urine concentrations greater than 1 000 μ g/ml and 4 000 μ g/ml respectively are attained.

In patients undergoing peritoneal dialysis (2 litres/hr), mean serum levels of cefazolin were approximately 10 and 30 μ g/ml after 24 hours instillation of a dialyzing solution containing 50 mg/litre and 150 mg/litre respectively. Mean peak levels were 29 μ g/ml (range 13 to 44 μ g/ml) with 50 mg/litre (3 patients) and 72 μ g/ml (range 26 to 142 μ g/ml) with 150 mg/litre (6 patients). At the end of dialysis, 1 g of cefazolin was inserted and left in the peritoneal cavity. The final 1 g resulted in a mean peak level of 63 μ g/ml within 2 hours.

When cefazolin is administered to patients with unobstructed biliary tracts, high concentrations, well above serum levels, occur in the gall bladder tissue and bile. In the presence of obstruction, however, concentration of the antibiotic is considerably lower in bile than in serum. Cefazolin readily crosses an inflamed synovial membrane and the concentration of the antibiotic achieved in the joint space is comparable to levels measured in serum.

Cefazolin readily crosses the placental barrier into the umbilical cord blood and amniotic fluid. Cefazolin is excreted in breast milk.

Microbiology: In vitro tests demonstrate that the bactericidal action of cephalosporins results from inhibition of cell wall synthesis. Cefazolin is active against the following organisms in vitro:

- *Staphylococcus aureus* (including penicillinase-producing strains).
- *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.
- Methicillin resistant staphylococci are uniformly resistant to cefazolin.
- Group A β -haemolytic streptococci and other strains of streptococci (many strains of enterococci are resistant).
- *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.
- *Escherichia coli*.
- *Proteus mirabilis*.
- *Klebsiella* species.
- *Enterobacter aerogenes*.
- *Haemophilus influenzae*.

Most strains of indole positive *Proteus* (*Proteus vulgaris*), *Enterobacter cloacae*, *Morganella morganii* and *Providencia rettgeri* are resistant. *Serratia*, *Pseudomonas* and *Acinetobacter calcoaceticus* are almost uniformly resistant to cefazolin.

Indications:

CEFAZOLIN OETHMAAN is indicated in the treatment of the following infections due to susceptible micro-organisms:

Respiratory tract infections due to *S. pneumoniae*, *Klebsiella* species, *H. influenzae*, *S. aureus* (including penicillinase-producing strains) and group A β -haemolytic streptococci.

The agent of choice for streptococcal infection and prevention of rheumatic fever is penicillin.

Genito urinary tract infections due to *E. coli*, *P. mirabilis*, *Klebsiella* species and some strains of *Enterobacter* and *enterococci*.

Skin and skin structure infections due to *S. aureus* (including penicillinase-producing strains) and group A β -haemolytic streptococci and other strains of streptococci.

Bone and joint infections due to *S. aureus*.

Septicaemia due to *S. pneumoniae*, *S. aureus* (penicillin sensitive and penicillin resistant), *P. mirabilis*, *E. coli* and *Klebsiella* species.

Endocarditis due to *S. aureus* (penicillin sensitive and penicillin resistant) and group A β -haemolytic streptococci. Not first line therapy for *S. aureus* endocarditis or septicaemia.

Appropriate culture and susceptibility studies should be performed to determine susceptibility of the causative organism to CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN.

Peri operative prophylaxis: The prophylactic administration of CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN pre operatively, intra operatively, and post operatively may reduce the incidence of post operative wound infections in patients undergoing abdominal hysterectomy.

The prophylactic administration of CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN should usually be discontinued within a 24 hour period after the surgical procedure.

Contraindications:

CEFAZOLIN OETHMAAN is contra indicated in patients with a known allergy to the cephalosporin group of antibiotics and other beta-lactam group of antibiotics, e.g. Penicillins. See "Warnings".

Warnings and Special precautions:

BEFORE CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN THERAPY IS INSTITUTED, CAREFUL INQUIRY SHOULD BE MADE CONCERNING PREVIOUS HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS TO CEPHALOSPORINS AND PENICILLIN. CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN SHOULD BE ADMINISTERED WITH CAUTION TO PENICILLIN SENSITIVE PATIENTS.

SERIOUS ACUTE HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS MAY OCCUR. CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED AND THE PATIENT TREATED WITH ADRENALINE, CORTICOSTEROIDS AND ANTIHISTAMINES.

There is some clinical and laboratory evidence of partial cross allergenicity between the penicillins and the cephalosporins. Patients have been reported to have had severe reactions, including anaphylaxis, to both agents.

Pseudomembranous colitis has been reported with many broad spectrum antibiotics, therefore it is important to consider its diagnosis in patients who develop diarrhoea in association with their use. Such colitis may be life threatening and appropriate measures should be taken, including discontinuation of the antibiotic.

Concomitant use of alcohol may result in disulfiram-like effects such as stomach cramps, facial flushing, headache, hypotension, nausea, palpitations, shortness of breath, sweating, tachycardia, or vomiting. If an allergic reaction to CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN occurs, the medication should be discontinued and the patient treated with the appropriate agents, eg adrenaline, corticosteroids, aminophylline and antihistamines.

Prolonged use of CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN may result in the overgrowth of non susceptible organisms. Careful clinical observation of the patient is essential. If superinfection occurs during therapy, appropriate measures should be taken.

When CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN is administered to patients with low urinary output because of impaired renal function, lower daily dosage is required (see "Dosage and directions for use").

The intrathecal administration of CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN is not an approved route of administration for this antibiotic; in fact, there have been reports of severe central nervous system (CNS) toxicity including seizures when CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN was administered in this manner.

Broad spectrum antibiotics should be prescribed with caution in individuals with a history of gastrointestinal disease, particularly colitis.

Usage in infants: Safety for use in prematures and infants under 1 month of age has not been established.

Interactions:

Used concurrently, probenecid may decrease renal tubular secretion of CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN, resulting in increased and more prolonged cephalosporin blood levels.

CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN may possibly enhance the effects of warfarin.

Medicine/labatory test interactions:

A false positive reaction for glucose in the urine may occur with Benedict's or Fehling's solution or with Clinitest tablets, but not with glucose oxidase urine sugar analysis test, e.g. Tes Tape.

Positive direct and indirect antiglobulin (Coombs') tests have occurred; these may also occur in neonates whose mothers received cephalosporins before delivery.

Human Reproduction:

Safety of this product for use during pregnancy has not been established. CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN is present in very low concentrations in the milk of nursing mothers.

Dosage and directions for use:

CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN may be administered intramuscularly or intravenously after reconstitution. The total daily dosages are the same for either route of administration.

The intrathecal administration of CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN is not an approved route of administration for this antibiotic; in fact, there have been reports of severe CNS toxicity, including seizures, when CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN was administered in this manner.

Intramuscular or intravenous administration:

For intramuscular administration : reconstitute with 0,5 % lidocaine according to Table 3. Shake well until dissolved.

CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN should be injected into a large muscle mass.

For intravenous administration: reconstitute with water for injection or 0,9 % sodium chloride according to Table 3.

For preparing solutions for intravenous infusion fill up the infusion bottle with 50 – 100 ml 0,9 % sodium chloride solution, allow dry substance to dissolve and infuse slowly.

Prior to administration, the reconstituted solution should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discolouration. The reconstituted solution is clear.

Table 3: Dilution table:

Vial size	Diluent to be added
500 mg	2 ml
1 g	4 ml

Dosage:

Usual adult dosage: The usual adult dosages are given in Table 4.

Table 4: Usual adult dosage

Type of infection	Dose	Frequency
Pneumococcal pneumonia	500 mg to 1 g	Every 6 to 12 hours
Mild infections caused by susceptible Gram-positive cocci	250 mg to 500 mg	Every 8 hours
Acute uncomplicated urinary tract infections	1 g	Every 12 hours
Moderate to severe infections	500 mg to 1 g	Every 6 to 8 hours
Severe, life-threatening infections (e.g. endocarditis, septicæmia)	1 g to 1,5 g	Every 6 hours

Dosage adjustment for patients with reduced renal function:

CEFALAZOLIN OETHMAAN may be used in patients with reduced renal function with the following dosage adjustments: Patients with a creatinine clearance of \geq 55 ml/min or a serum creatinine of \leq 130 μ mol/l can be given full doses. Patients with creatinine clearance rates of 35 to 54 ml/min or serum creatinine of 139 μ mol/l to 260 μ mol/l can also be given full doses, but dosage should be restricted to at least 8 hour intervals. Patients with creatinine clearance rates of 11 to 34 ml/min or serum creatinine of 269 μ mol/l to 390 μ mol/l should be given one half the usual dose every 12 hours. Patients with creatinine clearance rates of \leq 10 ml/min or serum creatinine of \geq 399 μ mol/l should be given one half the usual dose every 18 to 24 hours. All reduced dosage recommendations apply after an initial loading dose appropriate to the severity of the infection. For information about peritoneal dialysis, see "Human pharmacology".

Peri operative prophylactic use:

To prevent post operative infection in contaminated or potentially contaminated abdominal hysterectomy, the recommended doses are as follows:

a. 1 g IV or IM administered one half to 1 hour prior to the start of surgery.

b. For lengthy operative procedures (e.g. 2 hours or longer), 1 g IV or IM during surgery (administration modified according to the duration of the operative procedure).

c. 1 g IV or IM every 6 to 8 hours for a maximum of 24 hours post operatively has been used.

