

Cefixime

Sanofi-Aventis Canada Inc is the sole supplier in Canada¹:

- Suprax 400 mg tablets DIN 00868965
- Suprax 100 mg/5ml suspension DIN 00868981

Therapeutic alternatives by indication^{2,3,4,5,6}:

Cefixime Indication	Causative microorganism(s)	Therapeutic Alternative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncomplicated gonorrhea (cervical/urethral and rectal) 	<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> , including penicillinase (beta-lactamase-positive) and nonpenicillinase (beta-lactamase-negative) producing strains	First line: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM single dose* + Azithromycin 1g single dose OR Doxycycline 100 mg BID x 7 days • If allergy to cephalosporins, Azithromycin 2g single dose** (follow-up test of cure required) Second line: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ciprofloxacin 500 mg single dose (only if susceptibility demonstrated) OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spectinomycin 2g IM single dose (Available only through SAP) + Azithromycin 1g single dose OR Doxycycline 100 mg BID x 7 days
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharyngitis and tonsillitis (third or fourth line) 	<i>S. pyogenes</i>	First line: Penicillin V, amoxicillin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Otitis media, acute sinusitis, acute bronchitis (third or fourth line) 	<i>S. pneumoniae</i> , <i>H. influenzae</i> (beta-lactamase positive and negative strains), <i>M. catarrhalis</i> (beta-lactamase positive and negative strains) and <i>S. pyogenes</i>	First line : Amoxicillin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute uncomplicated cystitis and urethritis (third or fourth line) 	<i>E. coli</i> , <i>P. irabilis</i> , and <i>Klebsiella</i> species.	First line: Nitrofurantoin, fosfomycin, trimethoprim, co-trimoxazole

* 1% lidocaine 0.9 ml recommended diluent to decrease pain of injection. Reconstitute immediately before use. If storage required, refrigerate and use within 48 hours.

** Increased incidence of GI effects associated with high dose of azithromycin

- Administer with food – may minimize the GI effects
- May use prophylactic antiemetics (unless contraindicated)
- If vomiting occurs within 1 hour after administration, a repeat dose should be given

Prepared by Karen Jensen BSP, MSc. Reviewed by Carmen Bell, BSP

Posted July, 2014

References:

1. Drug Product Database. Health Canada. Available at
2. Anti-infective Review Panel. Anti-infective guidelines for community-acquired infections. Toronto: MUMS Guideline Clearinghouse; 2013.
3. Blondel-Hill E, Fryters S. Bugs & Drugs: An antimicrobial / infectious diseases reference. Alberta Health Services; 2012.
4. National shortage of Cefixime 400mg (Suprax®) tablets. Available at <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/hp/if-hp-phys-moh-cefixime-shortage-provincial.pdf> . Accessed July 2014.
5. Public Health Agency of Canada. Gonococcal Infections. In Section 5 – Management and treatment of specific infections, Canadian guidelines on sexually transmitted infections. Available at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/std-mts/sti-its/cgsti-ldcits/section-5-6-eng.php#toc361210465>. Accessed July 2014.
6. Gov't of Sask CD Subcommittee. Planning for cefixime shortage. Teleconference July 24, 2014.