**Cefixime:**

**Class:** antibiotic.

**Indications:** Treatment of uncomplicated urinary tract infections (due to *Escherichia coli* and *Proteus mirabilis*), otitis media (due to *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Moraxella catarrhalis*, and *Streptococcus pyogenes*), pharyngitis and tonsillitis (due to *Streptococcus pyogenes*), acute exacerbations of chronic bronchitis (due to *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and *Haemophilus influenzae*); uncomplicated cervical/urethral gonorrhea (due to *N. gonorrhoeae* [penicillinase- and nonpenicillinase-producing].

**Available dosage form in the hospital:** 100MG/5ML SUSP 30 ML BOTTLE, 100MG/5ML SUSP [60 ML] BOTTLE, 200MG CAP, 400MG CAP.

**Trade Names:**

**Dosage:**

- Susceptible infections: Oral: 400 mg daily divided every 12-24 hours
- Gonococcal infection, uncomplicated cervical/urethral/rectal gonorrhea due to *N. gonorrhoeae*: Oral: 400 mg as a single dose in combination with oral azithromycin (preferred) or oral doxycycline (CDC, 2010). **Note:** CDC no longer recommends cefixime as a first-line agent (ceftriaxone is the preferred cephalosporin), if cefixime is used as an alternative agent, test-of-cure follow up in 7 days is recommended; in addition, cefixime is **not** an option for the treatment of uncomplicated gonorrhea of the pharynx (CDC, 2012). In Canada, due to increased antimicrobial resistance, the Public Health Agency of Canada recommends 800 mg as a single dose (unlabeled dose) for treatment of uncomplicated gonococcal infections.
- Gonococcal infection, expedited partner therapy: Oral: 400 mg as a single dose in combination with oral azithromycin (CDC, 2012). **Note:** Only used if a heterosexual partner cannot be linked to evaluation and treatment in a timely manner; dose delivered to partner by patient, collaborating pharmacy, or disease investigation specialist.
- *S. pyogenes* infections: Oral: 400 mg daily divided every 12-24 hours for ≥10 days
- Typhoid fever (unlabeled use): Oral: 15-20 mg/kg/day in 2 divided doses for 7-14 days (Parry, 2002; WHO, 2003)

**Renal Impairment:**

**Adults:**

- \( \text{Cl}_{\text{cr}} \geq 60 \text{ mL/minute} \): No dosage adjustment necessary.
- \( \text{Cl}_{\text{cr}} 21-59 \text{ mL/minute} \): 260 mg once daily
- \( \text{Cl}_{\text{cr}} \leq 20 \text{ mL/minute} \):
  - Chewable tablet, tablet: 200 mg once daily
  - 100 mg/5 mL suspension: 172 mg once daily
  - 200 mg/5 mL suspension: 176 mg once daily
500 mg/5 mL suspension: 180 mg once daily

- Intermittent hemodialysis (not significantly removed by hemodialysis): 260 mg once daily.

**Common side effect:** Diarrhea, Abdominal pain, nausea, dyspepsia, flatulence, loose stools.

**Pregnancy Risk Factor:** B