

Cephalexin:

Class: Antibiotic

Indications:

Treatment of susceptible bacterial infections including respiratory tract infections, otitis media, skin and skin structure infections, bone infections, and genitourinary tract infections, including acute prostatitis; alternative therapy for acute infective endocarditis prophylaxis

Available dosage form in the hospital: 125MG/5ML SUSP, 250MG /5ML SUSP, 250MG CAP, 500MG CAP.

Trade Names:

Dosage:

- Dosing range: Oral: 250-1000 mg every 6 hours (maximum: 4 g/day)
- Cellulitis and mastitis: Oral 500 mg every 6 hours
- Furunculosis/skin abscess: Oral: 250 mg 4 times/day
- Prophylaxis against infective endocarditis (dental, oral, or respiratory tract procedures): Oral: 2 g 30-60 minutes prior to procedure. **Note:** American Heart Association (AHA) guidelines now recommend prophylaxis only in patients undergoing invasive procedures and in whom underlying cardiac conditions may predispose to a higher risk of adverse outcomes should infection occur.
- Prophylaxis in total joint replacement patients undergoing dental procedures which produce bacteremia: Oral: 2 g 1 hour prior to procedure.
- Prosthetic joint infection, chronic oral antimicrobial suppression (unlabeled use): Oral:
 - Propionibacterium spp* (alternative to penicillin or amoxicillin): 500 mg every 6-8 hours (Osmon, 2013)
 - Staphylococci, oxacillin-susceptible* (preferred): 500 mg every 6-8 hours (Osmon, 2013)
 - Streptococci, beta-hemolytic* (alternative to penicillin or amoxicillin): 500 mg every 6-8 hours (Osmon, 2013)
- Skin and skin structure infections: Oral: 500 mg every 12 hours
- Streptococcal pharyngitis: Oral: 500 mg every 12 hours. **Note:** Recommended by the Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) as an alternative agent for group A streptococcal pharyngitis in penicillin-allergic patients (avoid in patients with immediate-type hypersensitivity to penicillin) with a duration of 10 days (Shulman, 2012).
- Uncomplicated cystitis: Oral: 500 mg every 12 hours for 7-14 days

Renal Impairment :

Adults:

-Cl_{cr} 10-50 mL/minute: 500 mg every 8-12 hours

-Cl_{cr} <10: 250-500 mg every 12-24 hours

-Hemodialysis: 250 mg every 12-24 hours; moderately dialyzable (20% to 50%); give dose after dialysis session.

Common side effect: dizziness, fatigue, headache, urticarial, Abdominal pain, diarrhea, dyspepsia, Eosinophilia, Arthralgia, arthritis,

Pregnancy Risk Factor: B