

- ▶ Adult: 500 mg twice daily for 14–21 days (for 28 days in Lyme arthritis)

#### Surgical prophylaxis

- ▶ INITIALLY BY INTRAVENOUS INJECTION
- ▶ Adult: 1.5 g, to be administered up to 30 minutes before the procedure, then (by intravenous injection or by intramuscular injection) 750 mg every 8 hours if required for up to 3 doses (in high risk procedures)

#### Open fractures, prophylaxis

- ▶ BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION, OR BY INTRAVENOUS INJECTION
- ▶ Adult: 1.5 g every 8 hours until soft tissue closure (maximum duration 72 hours)

#### Acute prostatitis

- ▶ BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION, OR BY INTRAVENOUS INJECTION
- ▶ Adult: 1.5 g every 6–8 hours

#### Urinary-tract infection (lower)

- ▶ BY MOUTH
- ▶ Child (body-weight up to 40 kg): 15 mg/kg twice daily (max. per dose 250 mg)
- ▶ Child (body-weight 40 kg and above): 250 mg twice daily
- ▶ Adult: 250 mg twice daily

#### Urinary tract infection (catheter-associated)

- ▶ BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION, OR BY INTRAVENOUS INJECTION
- ▶ Child 3 months–15 years: 20 mg/kg every 8 hours (max. per dose 750 mg); increased to 50–60 mg/kg every 6–8 hours (max. per dose 1.5 g), increased dose used for severe infection
- ▶ Child 16–17 years: 0.75–1.5 g every 6–8 hours
- ▶ Adult: 0.75–1.5 g every 6–8 hours

#### Acute pyelonephritis

- ▶ BY MOUTH
- ▶ Child (body-weight up to 40 kg): 15 mg/kg twice daily (max. per dose 250 mg)
- ▶ Child (body-weight 40 kg and above): 250 mg twice daily
- ▶ Adult: 250 mg twice daily
- ▶ BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION, OR BY INTRAVENOUS INJECTION
- ▶ Child 3 months–15 years: 20 mg/kg every 8 hours (max. per dose 750 mg); increased to 50–60 mg/kg every 6–8 hours (max. per dose 1.5 g), increased dose used for severe infection
- ▶ Child 16–17 years: 0.75–1.5 g every 6–8 hours
- ▶ Adult: 0.75–1.5 g every 6–8 hours

#### ● UNLICENSED USE

- ▶ In children [EvgGr](#) Cefuroxime is used for the treatment of cellulitis, [A](#) but the dose increase is not licensed for this indication. [EvgGr](#) Cefuroxime is used for the treatment of erysipelas, [A](#) but the dose increase is not licensed for this indication. Not licensed for treatment of Lyme disease in children under 12 years.

- ▶ Duration of treatment in Lyme disease is unlicensed.

#### ● INTERACTIONS → Appendix 1: cephalosporins

#### ● SIDE-EFFECTS

- ▶ **Common or very common**
- ▶ With oral use Increased risk of infection
- ▶ **Uncommon**
- ▶ With parenteral use Gastrointestinal disorder
- ▶ **Frequency not known**
- ▶ With oral use Drug fever · hepatic disorders · Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction · serum sickness
- ▶ With parenteral use Cutaneous vasculitis · drug fever · increased risk of infection

#### ● PREGNANCY Not known to be harmful.

#### ● BREAST FEEDING Present in milk in low concentration, but appropriate to use.

#### ● RENAL IMPAIRMENT

- ▶ **Dose adjustments** ▶ With intravenous use in adults Use parenteral dose of 750 mg twice daily if eGFR 10–20 mL/minute/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>. Use parenteral dose of 750 mg once daily if eGFR less than 10 mL/minute/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>.

- ▶ In children Reduce parenteral dose if estimated glomerular filtration rate less than 20 mL/minute/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>.

#### ● DIRECTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATION

- ▶ With intramuscular use or intravenous use Single doses over 750 mg should be administered by the intravenous route only.
- ▶ With intravenous use in children Displacement value may be significant when reconstituting injection, consult local guidelines. For intermittent intravenous infusion, dilute reconstituted solution further in glucose 5% or sodium chloride 0.9%; give over 30 minutes.
- ▶ With intravenous use in adults For *intravenous infusion* (Zinacef<sup>®</sup>), give intermittently or via drip tubing in Glucose 5% or Sodium chloride 0.9%. Dissolve initially in water for injections (at least 2 mL for each 250 mg, 15 mL for 1.5 g); suggested volume 50–100 mL given over 30 minutes.
- ▶ **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** For choice of antibacterial therapy, see Antibacterials, use for prophylaxis p. 529, Gastro-intestinal system infections, antibacterial therapy p. 535, Lyme disease p. 611, Skin infections, antibacterial therapy p. 540, Urinary-tract infections p. 622.

- ▶ **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug. Forms available from special-order manufacturers include: solution for injection, infusion

#### Tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 9, 21, 25

#### ▶ Cefuroxime (Non-proprietary)

**Cefuroxime (as Cefuroxime axetil) 250 mg** Cefuroxime 250mg tablets | 14 tablet [PoM](#) £17.72 DT = £17.72

▶ **Zinnat** (GlaxoSmithKline UK Ltd)

**Cefuroxime (as Cefuroxime axetil) 125 mg** Zinnat 125mg tablets | 14 tablet [PoM](#) £4.56 DT = £4.56

**Cefuroxime (as Cefuroxime axetil) 250 mg** Zinnat 250mg tablets | 14 tablet [PoM](#) £9.11 DT = £17.72

#### Powder for injection

ELECTROLYTES: May contain Sodium

#### ▶ Cefuroxime (Non-proprietary)

**Cefuroxime (as Cefuroxime sodium) 250 mg** Cefuroxime 250mg powder for injection vials | 10 vial [PoM](#) £9.25 (Hospital only)

**Cefuroxime (as Cefuroxime sodium) 750 mg** Cefuroxime 750mg powder for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM](#) £2.52 | 10 vial [PoM](#) £25.20 | 10 vial [PoM](#) £26.10 (Hospital only)

**Cefuroxime (as Cefuroxime sodium) 1.5 gram** Cefuroxime 1.5g powder for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM](#) £5.05 | 10 vial [PoM](#) £50.50 | 10 vial [PoM](#) £53.00 (Hospital only)

#### ▶ Zinacef (GlaxoSmithKline UK Ltd)

**Cefuroxime (as Cefuroxime sodium) 250 mg** Zinacef 250mg powder for injection vials | 5 vial [PoM](#) £4.70

**Cefuroxime (as Cefuroxime sodium) 750 mg** Zinacef 750mg powder for injection vials | 5 vial [PoM](#) £11.72 (Hospital only)

**Cefuroxime (as Cefuroxime sodium) 1.5 gram** Zinacef 1.5g powder for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM](#) £4.70

#### Oral suspension

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EXCIPIENTS: May contain Aspartame, sucrose

#### ▶ Zinnat (GlaxoSmithKline UK Ltd)

**Cefuroxime (as Cefuroxime axetil) 25 mg per 1 mL** Zinnat 125mg/5ml oral suspension | 70 mL [PoM](#) £5.20 DT = £5.20