



[Home](#)

2. Cefixime

Cefixime

Generic name: cefixime [*sef-IX-eem*]

Brand name: [Suprax](#)

Dosage forms: oral capsule, oral powder for reconstitution, oral tablet, oral chewable tablet

Drug class: [Third generation cephalosporins](#)

Medically reviewed by [Carmen Pope, BPharm](#). Last updated on Jun 26, 2024.

[Uses](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Side effects](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

What is cefixime?

Cefixime is an antibiotic that may be used to treat many different types of infections caused by bacteria.

Cefixime stops bacteria from forming a cell wall, which bacteria need to survive. This decreases the number of bacteria in your body, which helps your body fight the infection.

Cefixime was FDA approved in 1989.

Warnings

You should not take cefixime if you are allergic to cefixime, or to similar [antibiotics](#), such as [Ceftin](#), [Cefzil](#), [Keflex](#), [Omnicef](#), and others. Tell your doctor if you are allergic to [penicillins](#).

Before taking this medicine

You should not take this medicine if you are allergic to cefixime or to other cephalosporin antibiotics, such as:

- [cefaclor](#) (Raniclor);
- [cefadroxil](#) (Duricef);
- [cefazolin](#) (Ancef);
- [cefdinir](#) (Omnicef);
- cefditoren (Spectracef);
- [cefpodoxime](#) (Vantin);
- [cefprozil](#) (Cefzil);
- ceftibuten (Cedax);

- cefuroxime (Ceftin);
- [cephalexin](#) (Keflex);
- [cephradine](#) (Velosef); and others.

To make sure cefixime is safe for you, tell your doctor if you are allergic to any drugs, especially [penicillins](#).

The chewable tablet form of cefixime may contain phenylalanine. Talk to your doctor before using this form if you have [phenylketonuria](#) (PKU).

It is not known whether cefixime will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant.

It is not known whether cefixime passes into breast milk or if it could harm a nursing baby. Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding. **You may need to stop nursing while you are taking cefixime.**

The cefixime suspension (liquid) contains sucrose. Talk to your doctor before using this form of cefixime if you have diabetes.

i [Cefixime pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

How should I take cefixime?

Follow all directions on your cefixime label. Do not take cefixime in larger or smaller amounts or for longer than recommended.

You may take cefixime with or without food.

The cefixime chewable tablet must be chewed before you swallow it.

Shake the oral cefixime suspension (liquid) well just before you measure a dose. Measure liquid medicine with the dosing syringe provided, or with a special dose-measuring spoon or medicine cup. If you do not have a dose-measuring device, ask your pharmacist for one.

Cefixime can cause unusual results with certain lab tests for glucose (sugar) in the urine. Tell any doctor who treats you that you are taking this medication.

Use cefixime for the full prescribed length of time. Your symptoms may improve before the infection is completely cleared. Skipping doses may also increase your risk of further infection that is resistant to antibiotics. Cefixime will not treat a [viral infection](#) such as the [common cold](#) or flu.

Store cefixime at room temperature away from moisture, heat, and light.

You may also store **cefixime oral liquid** in the refrigerator. Throw away any unused liquid after 14 days.

i [Detailed Cefixime dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Take the missed dose of cefixime as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

What should I avoid while taking cefixime?

Antibiotic medicines can cause [diarrhea](#), which may be a sign of a new infection. If you have diarrhea that is watery or bloody, call your doctor. Do not use anti-diarrhea medicine unless your doctor tells you to.

Cefixime side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction to cefixime**: hives; difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Cefixime may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:

- severe stomach pain, diarrhea that is watery or bloody;
- [jaundice](#) (yellowing of the skin or eyes);
- pale or yellowed skin, dark colored urine, confusion or weakness;
- a seizure (convulsions);
- low blood cell counts--sudden weakness or ill feeling, fever, chills, flu-like symptoms, swollen gums, mouth sores, skin sores, rapid heart rate, pale skin, easy bruising, unusual bleeding, feeling light-headed;
- kidney problems--little or no urination, painful or difficult urination, swelling in your feet or ankles, feeling tired or short of breath; or
- severe skin reaction--fever, [sore throat](#), swelling in your face or tongue, burning in your eyes, skin pain followed by a red or purple skin rash that spreads (especially in the face or upper body) and causes blistering and peeling.

Common side effects of cefixime may include:

- indigestion, stomach pain;
- [nausea](#), [vomiting](#); or
- vaginal itching or discharge.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Cefixime side effects](#) (more detail)

Related/similar drugs

[Amoxicillin/clavulanate](#)

Amoxicillin and clavulanate potassium is a combination antibiotic used to treat bacterial ...

Reviews & ratings

Reviews & ratings

5.3 / 10

[910 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Guaifenesin

Guaifenesin is an expectorant. It helps loosen congestion in your chest and throat. Includes ...

Reviews & ratings

7.1 / 10

[305 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

FEATURED

Omvox

Omvox is used to treat moderate to severe ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease in adults. This ...

Reviews & ratings

[1 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Levofloxacin

Levofloxacin is a fluoroquinolone antibiotic used to treat serious bacterial infections and prevent ...

Reviews & ratings

5.1 / 10

[741 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Augmentin

Augmentin is a prescription antibiotic combining amoxicillin and clavulanate to treat bacterial ...

Reviews & ratings

5.4 / 10

[447 Reviews](#)

- ..

[View more](#)

Clindamycin

Clindamycin (Cleocin) is used to treat serious infections caused by bacteria. Includes clindamycin ...

Reviews & ratings

5.7 / 10

[806 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Ciprofloxacin

Ciprofloxacin is an antibiotic belong to a group of drugs called fluoroquinolones. Learn about side ...

Reviews & ratings

5.0 / 10

[935 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Metronidazole

Metronidazole is an antibiotic used to fight bacteria in your body. Learn about side effects ...

Reviews & ratings

6.0 / 10

[2,431 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

What other drugs will affect cefixime?

Other drugs may interact with cefixime, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Tell each of your health care providers about all medicines you use now and any medicine you start or stop using.

 [Cefixime drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does cefixime interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

cefixime

+

Enter a drug name

Add

Frequently asked questions

- [Is there a gonorrhea treatment available over the counter?](#)

More about cefixime

- [Check interactions](#)
- [Compare alternatives](#)
- [Pricing & coupons](#)
- [Reviews \(27\)](#)
- [Drug images](#)
- [Side effects](#)
- [Dosage information](#)
- [During pregnancy](#)
- [Drug class: third generation cephalosporins](#)
- [Breastfeeding](#)
- [En español](#)

Patient resources

Other brands

[Suprax](#)

Professional resources

- [Cefixime monograph](#)
- [Cefixime \(FDA\)](#)
- [Cefixime Capsules \(FDA\)](#)

Other brands

[Suprax](#)

Related treatment guides

- [Bladder Infection](#)

- [Bronchitis](#)
- [Gonococcal Infection, Uncomplicated](#)
- [Gonococcal Infection, Disseminated](#)

Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

Medical Disclaimer

Copyright 1996-2025 Cerner Multum, Inc. Version: 6.01.

Antibiotics 101

[List of Common Antibiotics & Types](#)

[Antibiotics and Alcohol](#)

[Probiotics and Antibiotics](#)


[Antibiotics for Strep Throat](#)

[Antibiotics for a Tooth Infection](#)


[Antibiotics for UTI's](#)

DRUG STATUS

Availability
Rx Prescription only

Pregnancy & Lactation
 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*
N/A Not a controlled drug

Approval History
 Drug history at FDA



User Reviews & Ratings

6.0 / 10

[27 Reviews](#)

Images

[Cefixime Trihydrate 400 mg \(LU U43\)](#)



[View larger images](#)

Drugs.com Mobile App

Access drug & treatment information, identify pills, check interactions and set up personal medication records.



About

[About Drugs.com](#)

[Advertising policy](#)

[Attribution & citations](#)

Terms & privacy

[Terms of use](#)

[Editorial policy](#)

[Privacy policy](#)

Support

[Help center](#)

[Sitemap](#)

[Contact us](#)



[Subscribe to our newsletter](#) for the latest medication news, new drug approvals and FDA alerts.

Drugs.com provides accurate and independent information on more than 24,000 prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines and natural products. This material is provided for educational purposes only and is not intended for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Data sources include Micromedex (updated 7 Apr 2025), Cerner Multum™ (updated 13 Apr 2025), ASHP (updated 10 Apr 2025) and others.



Ad Choices
ADVERTISEMENT



Copyright © 2000-2025 Drugs.com. All rights reserved.