

Oxford Centre for Respiratory Medicine, Churchill Hospital

Information about Aztreonam

What is Aztreonam?

Aztreonam is part of a group of antibiotics called monobactams. It kills bacteria by interfering with the ability of the bacteria to form cell walls. This causes the bacteria to break up and die.

Aztreonam has the ability to kill a wide range of bacteria, including *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

What are the possible side effects of aztreonam?

If you experience any of the following serious side effects, stop taking aztreonam and seek emergency medical attention:

- Allergic reaction: difficulty breathing, swelling of the lips, tongue or throat, or a rash
- Diarrhoea that is watery
- Confusion or seizure
- Feeling light headed or fainting
- Pale skin, easy bruising
- Fever, chills, body aches
- Nausea with stomach pain and low fever
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes
- Unusual weakness of the muscles

Other, less serious side effects may be more likely to occur. Continue to take aztreonam and talk to the CF/Bronchiectasis team if you experience:

- Mild stomach discomfort
- Dizziness
- Numbness, tingling or burning pain
- Mild skin rash or itching

Side effects other than those listed above may also occur. Talk to a member of the CF/Bronchiectasis team about any side effect that seems unusual or that is especially bothersome.