

Oxford Centre for Respiratory Medicine, Churchill Hospital

Information about Cefoxitin

What is Cefoxitin?

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

Cefoxitin is used in combination therapy to treat *Mycobacterium abscessus*.

What are the possible side effects of cefoxitin?

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

- Allergic reaction: difficulty breathing, swelling of the lips, tongue or throat, or a rash
- Diarrhoea that is watery, with or without blood
- Confusion or seizure
- Feeling light headed or fainting
- Pale skin, easy bruising
- Fever, chills, body aches
- Mouth ulcers
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea with stomach pain and low fever
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes
- Unusual weakness of the muscles.

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INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Mild stomach discomfort
- Dizziness
- 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.