# cefEPIME

**Indication**
- Treatment of serious infections caused by susceptible gram-negative or gram-positive organisms resistant to third generation cephalosporins

**Presentation**
- Vial: 1 gram

**Dosage**
- 50 mg/kg every 12 hours

**Preparation**
- Add 8.7 mL of 0.9% sodium chloride to 1 g vial
  - Concentration now equal to 100 mg/mL
- Draw up 2.8 mL of 100 mg/mL solution and make up to 7 mL total volume with 0.9% sodium chloride
  - Concentration now equal to 40 mg/mL

**Administration**
- Prime the infusion line and reduce total syringe volume to the prescribed dose
- IV infusion via syringe driver infusion pump over 30 minutes
  - On completion, disconnect syringe and infusion line
  - Flush access port at same rate as infusion

**Special considerations**
- Consult with an infectious disease physician prior to use
- IM route only if IV not available
- UAC route: discuss with neonatologist/paediatrician prior to use

**Monitoring**
- Renal function if co-administered with nephrotoxic drugs

**Compatibility**
- Fluids
  - 5% glucose, 10% glucose, 0.9% sodium chloride
- Y-site
  - Dexmedetomidine, granisetron, sodium valproate

**Incompatibility**
- PN and fat emulsion: co-infusion with cefepime not recommended (evidence limited). If unavoidable, seek pharmacist advice first, filter infusion and flush before and after
- Fluids
  - Mannitol
- Drugs
  - Acetylcysteine, aciclovir, aminoglycosides (amikacin gentamicin, tobramycin), caspofungin, ciprofloxacin, droperidol, erythromycin, fligrastim, ganciclovir, haloperidol, magnesium sulphate, metoclopramide, metronidazole, midazolam, nicardipine, ondansetron, vecuronium, voridcona

**Interactions**
- Aminoglycosides and potent diuretics

**Stability**
- Store vial below 25 °C. Protect from light

**Side effects**
- Hypersensitivity reactions: rare in neonates. May present as erythema and rash (maculopapular rash, red purple plaques or urticarial type plaques)
- Blood pathology: elevated hepatic transaminases, eosinophilia, positive Coomb’s test
- Digestive: vomiting, diarrhoea

**Actions**
- Fourth generation cephalosporin with extended spectrum of activity and bactericidal properties
- Acts by inhibiting bacterial cell wall synthesis
### Abbreviations
- IM: intramuscular
- IV: intravenous

### Keywords
- Cefepime, cephalosporin

The Queensland Clinical Guideline *Neonatal Medicines* is integral to and should be read in conjunction with this monograph. Refer to the disclaimer. Destroy all printed copies of this monograph after use.

### References

### Document history

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