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## FORTAZEDIM I.M / I.V injection Ceftazidime

COMPOSITION FORTAZEDIM injection contains 250 mg, 500 mg, and 1 g of ceftazidime (as pentahydrate).

## PHARMACEUTICAL FORM Powder in vial for I.M / I.V injection .

## Indications Treatment of single or multiple infections caused by susceptible organisms.

May be used alone as first choice drug before the results of sensitivity tests are available.  
 May be used in combination with an aminoglycoside or most other beta-lactam antibiotics.  
 May be used with an antibiotic against anaerobes when the presence of *Bacteroides fragilis* is suspected.  
 Indications include:

- Severe infections e.g., septicemia, bacteremia, peritonitis meningitis.
- Infections in immunosuppressed patients.
- Respiratory tract infections including lung infections in cystic fibrosis
- Ear, nose and throat infections.
- Urinary tract infections.
- Skin and soft tissue infections
- Gastrointestinal, biliary and abdominal infections
- Bone and joint infections
- Infections associated with haemo- and peritoneal dialysis and with continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD)
- Prophylaxis: prosthetic surgery (transurethral resection),

## Dosage and Administration

Dosage depends upon the severity, sensitivity, site and type of infection and upon the age and renal function of the patient.

Use **FORTAZEDIM** injection I.V or deep I.M injection. Recommended I.M. injection sites are the upper outer quadrant of the gluteus maximus or lateral part of the thigh.

**FORTAZEDIM** solutions may be given directly into the vein or introduced into the tubing of a giving set if the patient is receiving parenteral fluids. 1 to 6 g/day in two or three divided doses by I.V or I.M injection. Urinary tract and less severe infections: 500 mg or 1 g every 12 h.

Very severe infections particularly in immunocompromised patients including those with neutropenia:

- 2 g every 8 or 12 h - 3 g every 12 h.

Fibrocystic adults with pseudomembranous lung infections.

- 100 - 150 mg/kg/day in three divided doses. In adults with normal renal function 9 g/day has been used without effect. When used as a prophylactic agent in prosthetic valves, 1 g should be given at the induction of surgery and 1 g every 12 h thereafter.

Infants and children (greater than 2 months) 30 to 100 mg/kg/day in two or three divided doses.

Neonates (0 to 2 months) 25 to 60 mg/kg/day in two divided doses.

In neonates, the serum half-life of ceftazidime can be three to four times that in adults.

Elderly In view of the reduced clearance of ceftazidime in acutely ill elderly patients, the daily dosage should not normally exceed 3 g. Especially in those over 80 years of age.

**Renal Impairment** Cefazidime is excreted unchanged by the kidneys. Therefore in patients with impaired renal function the dosage should be reduced.

An initial loading dose of 1 g should be given. Maintenance doses should be based on creatinine clearance.

## Recommended maintenance doses of Fortazedim renal insufficiency

Creatinine clearance (ml/min)	Approx. Serum creatinine micromoles (1 mg/dl)	Recommended unit dose of fortazidim (g)	Frequency of dosing (hour)
> 50	<150 (>17)	Normal dosage	
50-31	150-200 (1.7-2.3)	1.0	12
30-16	200-350 (2.3-4.0)	1.0	24
15-6	350-500 (4.0-5.6)	0.5	24
<6	>500 (>5.6)	0.5	48

In patients with severe infections the unit dose should be increased by 50% or the dosing frequency increased. In such patients the ceftazidime serum levels should be monitored and trough levels should not exceed 40 mg/dl. In children the creatinine clearance should be adjusted for body surface area or lean body mass.

**Hemodialysis** The serum half-life during hemodialysis ranges from 3 to 5 h. Following each hemodialysis period, the maintenance dose of **FORTAZEDIM** recommended in the above table should be repeated.

**Pertitoneal dialysis** **FORTAZEDIM** may be used in peritoneal dialysis and continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD). In addition to I.V. use- **FORTAZEDIM** can be incorporated into the dialysis fluid (usually 125 to 250 mg for 2 liters of dialysis solution). For patients in renal failure on continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis in intensive therapy units, 1 g daily either as a single dose or in divided doses. For low-flow hemofiltration, follow the dosage recommended under impaired renal function. For patients on venousous hemofiltration and venousous hemodialysis follow the dosage recommendations in the tables below.

## Continuous venous hemofiltration dosage guidelines for fortazidim

Residual renal function (creatinine clearance in ml/min)	Maintenance dose(mg) for a ultrafiltration rate (ml/min)*
0	5
5	250
10	250
15	250
20	500

\*Maintenance doses to be administered every 12h.

## FORTAZEDIM dosage guidelines during continuous venous hemodialysis

Residual renal function (creatinine clearance in ml/min)	Maintenance dose (mg) for a dialysis in flow rate of *
1.0 litre/h	2.0 litre/h
0.5	1.0
5	500
10	500
15	500
20	500

\*Maintenance dose to be administered every 12 h.

## Incompatibilities

+ hypersensitivity to ceftazidime pentahydrate or to other cephalosporins or to any of the excipients.

+ Previous immediate and/or severe hypersensitivity reaction to penicillin or to any other beta-lactam medical products.

## Special Warnings and Precautions for use

**Fortazedim** I.V. powder.

Amount of sodium in millimole / ml = 1.1133 sodium mmol per 1g. to be taken into consideration by patients on a controlled sodium diet.

**Fortazedim** 500 mg.

Amount of sodium in millimole / ml = 0.5686 millimole. This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium/250 mg. per <500 mg. i.e. essentially sodium - free .

**Fortazedim** 250 mg.

Amount of sodium in millimole / ml = 0.2783 millimole. This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium/23 mg. per <250 mg. i.e. essentially sodium - free .

Before beginning treatment establish whether the patient has a history of hypersensitivity reactions to ceftazidime-cephalosporin- penicillin or other drugs.

Special caution is required to determine any other type of previous hypersensitivity reaction to penicillin or to other beta-lactam medical products because patients hypersensitive to these medicines may be hypersensitive to fortazidime as well cross- allergy. If an allergic reaction to **FORTAZEDIM** occurs discontinue treatment. Serious and/or life threatening adverse reactions to penicillins and cephalosporins have been reported. Treatment with high doses of cephalosporins and nephrotoxic drugs such as aminoglycosides or potent diuretics (e.g. furosemide) may adversely affect renal function. Clinical experience has shown that this is not likely to be a problem with **FORTAZEDIM** at the recommended dose levels. There is no evidence that **FORTAZEDIM** adversely affects renal function at normal therapeutic doses. Ceftazidime is eliminated via the kidneys; therefore the dosage should be reduced according to the degree of renal impairment. Neurological sequelae have occasionally been reported when the dose have not been reduced in patients with renal impairment (see Dose and Administration - Renal impairment and Adverse reactions).

The clinical relevance of this finding is unknown, but if concurrent administration of Fortazedim and chloramphenicol is to be undertaken the possibility of antagonism should be considered.

In common with other antibiotics, ceftazidime after the gut flora- leading to lower estrogen reabsorption and reduced efficacy of oral contraceptives may lead to lower estrogen resistance during **FORTAZEDIM** therapy. When clinically appropriate during therapy of such infections, Periodic susceptibility testing should be considered.

## Interactions

Concurrent use of nephrotoxic drugs may adversely affect renal function (see Warnings and Precautions). Chloramphenicol is antagonistic in vitro with ceftazidime and other cephalosporins.

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## Effects on Ability to Drive and Use Machines

None reported.

## Adverse Reactions

The following convention has been used for the classification of frequency:

Very common >1/10,

Common >1/100 and <1/10,

Uncommon >1/1000 and <1/100, rare >1/10,000 and <1/1,000,

Very rare <1/10,000.

**Infections and infestations** Uncommon: Candidiasis (including vaginitis and oral thrush). Blood and lymphatic system disorders Common: eosinophilia and thrombocytopenia. Uncommon: Leucopenia, neutropenia, and thrombocytopenia. Very rare: Lymphocytosis.

**Immune system disorders** Very rare: Anaphylaxis (including bronchospasm and/or hypotension).

**Nervous system disorders** Uncommon: Headache and dizziness.

Very rare: Paresthesia.

There have been reports of neurological sequelae including tremor, myoclonia, convulsions, Encephalopathy and coma in patients with renal impairment in whom the dose of **FORTAZEDIM** has not been appropriately reduced.

**Vascular disorders** Common: phlebitis or thrombophlebitis with I.V. administration.

**Gastrointestinal disorders** Common: nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, and colitis.

Very rare: jaundice.

As with other cephalosporins, colitis may be associated with Clostridium difficile and may present as pseudomembranous colitis.

**Hepatobiliary disorders** Common: transient elevations in one or more of the hepatic enzymes, ALT (SGPT), AST (SGOT), LDH, GGT and alkaline phosphatase.

Very rare: jaundice.

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders** Common: maculopapular or urticarial rash.

Uncommon: Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and colitis.

**Other disorders** Common: pain after inflammation after I.M. injection.

Uncommon: Fever.

**Investigations** Common: Positive coombs test.

Uncommon: As with other cephalosporins, transient elevations of blood urea- blood urea nitrogen and/or serum creatinine have been observed. A positive coombs test develops in about 5% of patients and may interfere with blood cross-matching.

**General disorders and administration site conditions** Common: pain after inflammation after I.M. injection. Uncommon: Fever.

**Pharmacological properties** Mechanism of action: ceftazidime is bactericidal in action. It acts by inhibiting bacterial cell synthesis.

Pharmacodynamic effects: Bacteriology

A wide range of pathogenic strains and isolates are susceptible in vitro including strains resistant to gentamicin and other aminoglycosides. Ceftazidime is highly stable to most clinically important beta-lactamases produced by most gram-positive and gram-negative organisms; therefore it is active against many ampicillinase-producing cephalosporin-resistant strains. Ceftazidime has high intrinsic activity in vitro and acts against MDR bacteria.

Resistance to ceftazidime is mainly due to plasmid-mediated *bla<sub>CEPH-</sub>* genes.

**Antimicrobial spectrum** **FORTAZEDIM** is active in vitro against the following organisms:

- Gram-negative  
*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*  
*Pseudomonas spp.* (including *Ps.*, *Pseudomallei*)  
*Escherichia coli*  
*Klebsiella spp.* (including *Klebsiella pneumoniae*)  
*Proteus spp.*  
*Morganella morganii* (formerly *Proteus morganii*)  
*Proteus rettgeri*  
*Providencia spp.*  
*Enterobacter spp.*  
*Citrobacter spp.*  
*Serratia spp.*  
*Salmonella spp.*  
*Shigella spp.*  
*Yersinia enterocolitica*  
*Pasteurella multocida*  
*Acinetobacter spp.*  
*Neisseria gonorrhoeae*  
*Neisseria meningitidis*  
*Haemophilus influenzae* (including ampicillin resistant strains)  
*Haemophilus parainfluenzae* (including ampicillin resistant strains)  
*Staphylococcus aureus* (methicillin-sensitive strains)  
*Staphylococcus epidermidis* (methicillin-resistant strains)  
*Micrococcus spp.*  
*Streptococcus pyogenes* (Group A beta-hemolytic streptococcus)  
*Streptococcus Group B (S. agalactiae)*  
*Streptococcus pneumoniae*  
*Streptococcus mitis*  
*Streptococcus spp. excluding Enterococcus (Streptococcus faecalis)*  
*Enterococcus*  
*Campylobacter spp.*  
**Special Patient Populations** Elimination of ceftazidime is decreased in patients with impaired renal function and the dose should be reduced. (See Dosage and Administration - Renal impairment- Warnings and Precautions).

## PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

## List of Excipients

Sodium carbonate (anhydrous).

## Incompatibilities

**FORTAZEDIM** for injection/infusion is compatible with most commonly used I.V. fluids. However-

Sodium Bicarbonate Injection is not recommended as a diluent (see incompatibilities).

All sizes of vials of **FORTAZEDIM** Injection are supplied under reduced pressure. As the product dissolves carbon dioxide is released and a positive pressure develops. Small bubbles of carbon dioxide in the constituted solution may be ignored.

## Instructions for Use/ Handling

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## Storage

**FORTAZEDIM** for injection/infusion should be stored in a refrigerator (2-8°C) and protected from light.

Do not freeze. Do not use after the expiry date.

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