

# Cefazolin-AFT 500 mg and 1 g powder for injection vials

*Cefazolin sodium*

## Consumer Medicine Information

### What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Cefazolin-AFT.

It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you using Cefazolin-AFT against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about using this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may need to read it again.

### What Cefazolin-AFT is used for

Cefazolin-AFT is an antibiotic used to treat infections in different parts of the body caused by bacteria.

Cefazolin-AFT will not work against infections caused by viruses such as colds or the flu.

Cefazolin-AFT belongs to a group of antibiotics called cephalosporins. These antibiotics work by killing the bacteria that are causing your infection.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Cefazolin-AFT has been prescribed for you. Your doctor may have prescribed Cefazolin-AFT for another reason.

Cefazolin-AFT is available only with a doctor's prescription. It is not addictive.

### Before you are given Cefazolin-AFT

#### When you must not be given Cefazolin-AFT

Do not use Cefazolin-AFT if:

1. you have an allergy to the active ingredient, cefazolin sodium, or to any other cephalosporins. Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include asthma, wheezing, shortness of breath, swelling of the face, lips or tongue which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing, skin rash, itching or hives.
2. you have had a serious allergic reaction to any penicillins.  
You may be more likely to have an allergic reaction to Cefazolin-AFT if you are allergic to penicillin medicines.

Do not use Cefazolin-AFT if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

Do not use Cefazolin-AFT after the expiry date on the pack has passed.

If you are not sure whether you should be given Cefazolin-AFT, talk to your doctor or nurse.

#### Before you are given Cefazolin-AFT

Tell your doctor if:

1. you have had any type of allergic reaction to any cephalosporin or penicillin medicines. You may have an increased chance of being allergic to Cefazolin-AFT if you are allergic to any cephalosporins or penicillins.
2. you have any allergies to:
  - any other medicines

- any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes.
3. you are pregnant, or intend to become pregnant. Cefazolin-AFT may affect your developing baby if you use it during pregnancy. Your doctor will discuss the risks and benefits of using Cefazolin-AFT during pregnancy.
  4. you are breast-feeding or intend to breast-feed.  
Cefazolin-AFT passes into breast milk and may affect your baby. Your doctor will discuss the risks and benefits of using Cefazolin-AFT when breast-feeding.
  5. if you have or have had any medical conditions, including:
    - kidney disease
    - stomach or bowel problems.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you are given Cefazolin-AFT.

#### Use in Children

Cefazolin-AFT is not recommended for use in premature infants or infants under one month of age. The safety of Cefazolin-AFT in premature infants and infants under one month of age has not been established.

#### Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including medicines that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines may interfere with Cefazolin-AFT. These include:

- probenecid, a medicine used to treat gout
- warfarin, a medicine used to prevent blood clots
- other antibiotics such as amikacin, gentamicin, tobramycin
- typhoid vaccine.

These medicines may be affected by Cefazolin-AFT, or may affect how well it works. You may need to use different amounts of your medicine, or you may need to use different medicines. Your doctor will advise you.

Talk to your doctor about the need for an additional method of contraception while using Cefazolin-AFT. Some antibiotics may decrease the effectiveness of some birth control pills.

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while using Cefazolin-AFT.

#### How Cefazolin-AFT is given

Cefazolin-AFT must only be given by a doctor or nurse.

Cefazolin-AFT can be given:

- into a vein via a drip
- as a slow injection into a vein
- as a deep injection into a large muscle.

Your doctor will decide what dose and how long you will receive Cefazolin-AFT. This depends on your condition and whether you are taking any other medicines. For most infections, Cefazolin-AFT is usually given in divided doses throughout the day.

Sometimes only a single dose of Cefazolin-AFT is required for the treatment of certain infections.

#### If you are given too much (overdose)

In the unlikely event of an overdose, your treating physician will know what to do.

If you are given too much Cefazolin-AFT you may experience redness, pain or inflammation where the injection was given, stomach upset, headaches, chills, dizziness, tingling or numbness of the hands and feet or seizures.

Immediately telephone your doctor or the Poisons Information Centre (telephone 13 11 26 in Australia, or call 0800 764 766 in New Zealand) for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much Cefazolin-AFT. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

#### While you are using Cefazolin-AFT

##### Things you must do

If the symptoms of your infection do not improve within a few days, or if they become worse, tell your doctor.

If you get severe diarrhoea, tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse immediately. Do this even if it occurs several weeks after Cefazolin-AFT has been stopped. Diarrhoea may mean that you have a serious condition affecting your bowel. You may need urgent medical care. Do not take any diarrhoea medicine without first checking with your doctor.

If you get a sore white mouth or tongue while using or soon after stopping Cefazolin-AFT, tell your doctor. Also tell your doctor if you get vaginal itching or discharge. This may mean you have a fungal infection called thrush. Sometimes the use of Cefazolin-AFT allows fungi to grow and the above symptoms to occur. Cefazolin-AFT does not work against fungi.

If you become pregnant while you are using Cefazolin-AFT, tell your doctor immediately.

If you are about to start taking any new medicine, tell your doctor and pharmacist that you are using Cefazolin-AFT. Also tell all the doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are using Cefazolin-AFT.

If you have to test your urine for sugar while you are being given Cefazolin-AFT, make sure your doctor knows which type of test you use. Cefazolin-AFT may affect the results of some of these tests.

##### Things to be careful of

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how Cefazolin-AFT affects you. Cefazolin-AFT may cause dizziness in some people. Make sure you know how you react to Cefazolin-AFT before you drive a car, operate machinery or do anything else that may be dangerous if you are affected.

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## Side effects

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Tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well after you are given Cefazolin-AFT. All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

### *While using Cefazolin-AFT*

Tell your doctor or nurse if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

- oral thrush - white, furry, sore tongue and mouth
- vaginal thrush - sore and itchy vagina and/or discharge
- diarrhoea
- nausea or vomiting
- pain, redness and swelling where the injection was given.

These are the more common side effects of Cefazolin-AFT. These side effects are usually mild.

Tell your doctor or nurse immediately or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital if you notice any of the following:

- severe abdominal cramps or stomach cramps
- watery and severe diarrhoea, which may also be bloody
- fever
- skin rash, itching or hives
- swelling of the face, lips or tongue which may cause difficulty swallowing or breathing
- wheezing or shortness of breath
- bleeding or bruising more easily than normal
- signs of frequent infections such as fever, severe chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers.

These are serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention. These serious side effects are rare.

### *After finishing Cefazolin-AFT*

Tell your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following side effects, even if they occur several weeks after stopping treatment with Cefazolin-AFT:

- severe abdominal cramps or stomach cramps
- watery and severe diarrhoea, which may also be bloody
- fever, in combination with one or both of the above.

These are rare but serious side effects. You may have a serious condition affecting your bowel. Therefore, you may need urgent medical attention. However, this side effect is rare.

Do not take any diarrhoea medicine without first checking with your doctor.

Tell your doctor if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell. Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some patients.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

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## After using Cefazolin-AFT

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### *Storage*

Cefazolin-AFT will be stored in the pharmacy or on the ward.

The powder for injection is kept in a cool, dry place, protected from light, where the temperature stays below 25 °C.

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## Product Description

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### *What it looks like*

Cefazolin-AFT is a white to off-white powder. It is reconstituted before being injected.

### *Ingredients*

Each vial contains cefazolin sodium equivalent to cefazolin 500 mg or 1 g powder for injection.

Cefazolin-AFT does not contain gluten, lactose, sucrose, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

### *Sponsor*

AFT Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd  
113 Wicks Road  
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Australia

### *Australian Registration Numbers*

Cefazolin-AFT, cefazolin sodium equivalent to cefazolin 500 mg AUST R 171534

Cefazolin-AFT, cefazolin sodium equivalent to cefazolin 1 AUST R 171582

This leaflet was prepared on 24 August 2015