

NEONATAL MEDICATION PROTOCOLS

DRUG:	CEFOTAXIME		
PRESENTATION:	Vial: 1g		
ALERTS & RESTRICTIONS:	Antimicrobial Restriction: Category B ORANGE Monitored		
ACTION & INDICATION:	<p>Third generation cephalosporin, it interferes with bacterial cell wall synthesis.</p> <p>For the treatment of susceptible gram negative organisms except Pseudomonas species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suspected meningitis • Neonatal sepsis • Gonococcal infection 		
DOSE:	Postnatal Age	Dose	Frequency
	0-7 days	50 mg/kg	12 hourly
	>7-21 days	50 mg/kg	8 hourly
	>21 days	50 mg/kg	6 hourly
PREPARATION:	<p>IV: Use solution prepared in Pharmacy if available. If premade solution is not available, use the following process to prepare a 100mg/mL solution.</p> <p>Diluent: Water for Injections</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Add 9.6 mL diluent to 1 g vial = 100mg/mL</p> <p>IM: Add 3.4 mL diluent to 1 g vial = 300mg/mL</p>		
ADMINISTRATION:	<p>IV Injection: over 3 - 5 minutes</p> <p>IM Injection: As per NCCU policy.</p>		
ADVERSE EFFECTS:	<p>Hypersensitivity, skin rashes</p> <p>Cefotaxime may result in a false-positive urine glucose test (Clinitest®) result</p> <p>Phlebitis</p> <p>Diarrhoea, leukopenia, granulocytopenia, eosinophilia</p>		
COMMENTS:	<p>Increase the dosing interval in severe renal impairment</p> <p>IV Aminoglycosides are inactivated by IV Penicillins and Cephalosporins.</p> <p>If both are prescribed, flush the line well with Sodium Chloride 0.9% before and after giving each medication.</p> <p>Discard reconstituted solution immediately after use. Cefotaxime is used instead of ceftriaxone for gram-negative septicaemia in neonates because ceftriaxone can displace bilirubin.</p>		
REFERENCES:	<p>Neonatal Formulary 6th Edition, Neofax 2014</p> <p>SHPA Injectable Drug Handbook 6th Edition</p> <p>BNF for Children 2014</p>		