

Ceftriaxone

What is Ceftriaxone?

- It is an antibiotic given by injection
- It is the preferred treatment for gonorrhoea
- It is also provided to some contacts of meningococcal meningitis

What are common side effects?

- Local reaction at injection site including pain, induration (hardness) and tenderness
*Call your doctor if any of these symptoms are severe or do not go away.

What are less common side effects?

- Skin rashes/hives
 - Allergic reactions
 - Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
 - Swelling of the intestines (colitis)
 - Blood disorders
 - Headache/dizziness
- *Call your doctor **immediately** if these symptoms occur.

Who should not take Ceftriaxone?

- People with a known allergy to ceftriaxone, other cephalosporins or penicillin.
- Tell your health care provider if you have any bleeding, gall bladder, pancreas, liver or kidney disorders.

Counseling Guidelines

- Should only be used during pregnancy if the likely benefits outweigh the potential risk to the fetus and/or the mother.

What might be felt after receiving Ceftriaxone?

- Local reaction at the injection site:
 - pain
 - induration (hardness) and tenderness
- Ceftriaxone is usually given with lidocaine to reduce any discomfort.
 - Please tell the doctor or nurse if you have had a reaction to either of these medications in the past.

Care of Yourself Following Treatment

- Please wait in the clinic for 15 minutes after your treatment.
- If you have any reaction following treatment (rash, itchiness, difficulty breathing), please inform a staff member immediately.

Special Instructions

- Do not have sex until:
 - One week after you finish treatment; and
 - Your sex partner(s) have also been treated.
- Tell your health care provider if:
 - You have sex with an untreated partner, or
 - You have sex before either you or your partner's treatment is complete.
- If you are using a hormonal form of birth control (oral, patch, injection), use an extra method of protection until your present cycle is complete.
- **Azithromycin 1 gram** is provided along with Ceftriaxone for the treatment of gonorrhoea.

Adapted from Saskatoon Health Region and British Columbia Center for Disease Control (BCCDC)

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