



For Medical Professional only

Cefalor[®]

(C e f a l o r)

Capsules / Suspension / Drops

سیفالور / کپسولز / سسپنشن / ڈراپس
(سیفالور)

DESCRIPTION:

Cefalor (Cefalor, USP) is a semisynthetic cephalosporin antibiotic for oral administration. It is chemically designated as 3-chloro-7-D-(2-phenylglycinamido)-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid monohydrate. The chemical formula for Cefalor is C₁₅H₁₄ClN₃O₄S.H₂O and the molecular weight is 385.82.

COMPOSITION:

Cefalor 250mg Capsule:
Each Capsules Contains: Cefalor U.S.P. ... 250mg as Cefalor Monohydrate
(Product Specs.: U.S.P.)

Cefalor 500mg Capsule:
Each Capsules Contains: Cefalor U.S.P. ... 500mg as Cefalor Monohydrate
(Product Specs.: U.S.P.)

Cefalor 125mg/5ml Suspension:
Each 5ml Contains: Cefalor U.S.P.125mg as Cefalor Monohydrate
(Product Specs. U.S.P.)

Cefalor 250mg/5ml Suspension:
Each 5ml Contains: Cefalor U.S.P.250mg as Cefalor Monohydrate
(Product Specs. U.S.P.)

Cefalor 50mg/ml Drops:
Each ml Contains: Cefalor U.S.P. 50mg as Cefalor Monohydrate
(Product Specs. U.S.P.)

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY:

Pharmacodynamic Properties:

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Second-generation cephalosporin antibiotics, ATC code: J01DC04.

Microbiology:

Cefalor is active against the following organisms in vitro:
Alpha- and beta-haemolytic streptococci
Staphylococci; including coagulase-positive, coagulase-negative and penicillinase-producing strains
Streptococcus pneumoniae
Streptococcus pyogenes (group A beta-haemolytic streptococci)
Branhamella catarrhalis
Escherichia coli
Proteus mirabilis
Klebsiella species

Haemophilus influenzae, including ampicillin-resistant strains

Cefalor has no activity against Pseudomonas species or Acinetobacter species. Methicillin-resistant staphylococci and most strains of enterococci (eg, Str. faecalis) are resistant to cefalor. Cefalor is not active against most strains of Enterobacter spp, Serratia spp, Morganella morganii, Proteus vulgaris and Providencia rettgeri.

Pharmacokinetic Properties

Absorption:

Cefalor is well absorbed after oral administration to fasting subjects. Total absorption is the same whether the drug is given with or without food; however, when it is taken with food, the peak concentration achieved is 50 -75% of that observed when the drug is administered to fasting subjects and generally appears from 3/4 to one hour later. Following administration of 250mg, 500mg and 1G doses to fasting subjects, average peak serum levels of approximately 7, 13 and 23 mg/L respectively were obtained within 30 - 60 minutes. Following administration of 375mg, 500mg and 750mg tablets to fed subjects, average peak serum concentrations of 4, 8 and 11 µg/ml respectively, were obtained within 2.5 to 3 hours. No drug accumulation was noted when this was given twice daily.

Metabolism & Elimination:

Approximately 60 - 85% of the drug is excreted unchanged in the urine within eight hours, the greater portion being excreted within the first two hours. During the eight hour period, peak urine concentrations following the 250mg, 500mg and 1gm doses were approximately 600, 900 and 1,900 mg/L respectively. The serum half-life in normal subjects is 0.6 - 0.9 hours. In patients with reduced renal function, the serum half-life of cefalor is slightly prolonged. In those with complete absence of renal function, the plasma half- life of the intact molecule is 2.3 - 2.8 hours.

SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

Renal impairment

Excretion pathways in patients with markedly impaired renal function have not been determined. Haemodialysis shortens the half-life by 25 - 30%.

Elderly:

Elderly subjects with normal, mildly diminished renal function, do not require dosage adjustment, since higher peak plasma concentrations and AUC had no apparent clinical significance.

THERAPEUTIC INDICATIONS:

Cefalor is indicated for the treatment of the following infections due to

susceptible micro-organisms:

- Respiratory tract infections, including pneumonia, bronchitis, exacerbations of chronic bronchitis, pharyngitis and tonsillitis, and as part of the management of sinusitis.
- Otitis media
- Skin and soft tissue infections
- Urinary tract infections, including pyelonephritis and cystitis
- Cefalor has been found to be effective in both acute and chronic urinary tract infections.
- Cefalor is generally effective in the eradication of streptococci from the nasopharynx.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Adults & Elderly:

The usual adult dosage is 250mg every eight hours. For more severe infections or those caused by less susceptible organisms, doses may be doubled. Doses of 4g per day have been administered safely to normal subjects for 28 days, but the total daily dosage should not exceed this amount.

Pharyngitis, tonsillitis, skin and skin structure infections: 375mg twice daily.

Lower urinary tract infections: 375mg twice daily or 500mg once daily.

Bronchitis: 375mg or 500mg twice daily

Pneumonia: 750mg twice daily.

Paediatrics

The usual recommended daily dosage for children is 20mg/kg/day in divided doses every eight hours, as indicated. For bronchitis and pneumonia, the dosage is 20mg/kg/day in divided doses administered 3 times daily. For otitis media and pharyngitis, the total daily dosage may be divided and administered every 12 hours. Safety and efficacy have not been established for use in infants aged less than one month.

Suspension		
	125mg/5ml	250mg/5ml
<1 year (9kg)	2.5ml t.i.d.	
1-5 years (9kg-18kg)	5.0ml t.i.d.	5.0ml t.i.d.
Over 5 years		

In more serious infections, otitis media, sinusitis and infections caused by less susceptible organisms, 40mg/kg/day in divided doses is recommended, up to a daily maximum of 1g.

In the treatment of beta-haemolytic streptococcal infections, therapy should be continued for at least 10 days.

Patients with Renal Impairment:

Cefalor may be administered in the presence of impaired renal function. Under such conditions dosage is usually unchanged.

Patients undergoing haemodialysis:

Haemodialysis shortens serum half-life by 25-30%. In patients undergoing regular haemodialysis, a loading dose of 250mg-1g administered prior to dialysis and a therapeutic dose of 250-500mg every six to eight hours maintained during interdialytic periods is recommended.

Method of Administration:

Cefalor is administered orally. Absorption is enhanced by administration with food. The tablets should not be cut, crushed, or chewed.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

Hypersensitivity to the active substance, any cephalosporins or to any of the excipients.

WARNINGS:

Before instituting therapy with cefalor, every effort should be made to determine whether the patient has had previous hypersensitivity reactions to cefalor, cephalosporins, penicillins or other drugs. Cefalor should be given cautiously to penicillin-sensitive patients, because cross-hypersensitivity, including anaphylaxis, among beta-lactam antibiotics has been clearly documented.

Patients with rare hereditary problems of fructose intolerance, glucose-galactose malabsorption or sucrose – isomaltase insufficiency should not take this medicine.

If an allergic reaction to cefalor occurs, the drug should be discontinued and the patient treated with the appropriate agents.

Pseudomembranous colitis has been reported with virtually all broad-spectrum antibiotics, including macrolides, semi-synthetic penicillins and cephalosporins. It is important, therefore, to consider its diagnosis in patients who develop diarrhoea in association with the use of antibiotics. Such colitis may range in severity from mild to life-threatening. Mild cases usually respond to drug discontinuance alone. In moderate to severe cases, appropriate measures should be taken.

PRECAUTIONS:

Cefalor should be administered with caution in the presence of markedly impaired renal function. Since the half-life of cefalor in anuric patients is 2.3 to 2.8 hours (compared to 0.6-0.9 hours in normal subjects), dosage adjustments for patients with moderate or severe renal impairment are not usually required. Clinical experience with cefalor under such conditions is limited; therefore, careful clinical observation and laboratory studies should be made.

Broad-spectrum antibiotics should be prescribed with caution in individuals with a history of gastro-intestinal disease, particularly colitis.

Prolonged use of cefalor may result in the overgrowth of non-susceptible organisms. If superinfection occurs during therapy, appropriate measures should be taken.

Positive direct Coombs' tests have been reported during treatment with the cephalosporin antibiotics. In haematological studies or in transfusion cross-matching procedures, when anti-globulin tests are performed on the minor side, or in Coombs' testing of newborns whose mothers have received cephalosporin antibiotics before parturition, it should be recognised that a positive Coombs' test may be due to the drug.

A false positive reaction for glucose in the urine may be with Benedict's or Fehling's solutions or with copper sulphate test tablets.

DRUG INTERACTIONS:

There have been rare reports of increased prothrombin time, with or without clinical bleeding, in patients receiving cefalor and warfarin concomitantly. It is recommended that in such patients, regular monitoring of prothrombin time should be considered, with adjustment of dosage if necessary. The renal excretion of cefalor is inhibited by probenecid.

The extent of absorption is diminished if magnesium hydroxide or aluminium hydroxide containing antacids are taken within 1 hour of administration. H2 blockers do not alter either the rate or extent of absorption.

ADVERSE EFFECTS:

Gastro-intestinal: The most frequent side-effect has been diarrhoea. It is rarely severe enough to warrant cessation of therapy. Colitis, including rare instances



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