



CEFALEXIN

kef-ah-lex-in

What does it do?

Cefalexin is an antibiotic used to treat and prevent bacterial infections.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have kidney problems.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

How should you take it?

Take *cefalexin* regularly as directed. You can take it with or without food. Keep taking it until the course is finished, even if you start to feel better.

Capsule: Take with a glass of water.

Liquid: Measure carefully with an oral syringe or measuring spoon. Shake the bottle well before measuring each dose.

What if you forget a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as possible and continue as directed.

Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines available without a prescription may react with *cefalexin* including:

- zinc supplements (e.g. Zincaps®)

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects | Recommended action |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Symptoms of allergy including: skin rash, itching, swelling, trouble breathing | Tell your doctor immediately |
| Severe or persistent diarrhoea, abdominal pain | Tell your doctor |
| Small white sores in mouth, furry tongue (oral thrush) Vaginal itch or discharge (vaginal thrush) | Tell your health professional |
| Stomach upset | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

Other information:

- Store *cefalexin* liquid as directed. Once the course is finished, take any leftover liquid back to your pharmacy.