FACT SHEET

Cephalosporin Extralabel Use

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) prohibits certain uses of cephalosporins in swine and other species, including cattle, chickens and turkeys, in order to preserve the drugs' effectiveness for treating disease in humans and to reduce the risk of cephalosporin resistance in certain bacterial pathogens.[1]

The FDA prohibits what are called "extralabel," or unapproved, uses of cephalosporins in swine and other species, including cattle, chickens and turkeys,[1] with the exception of circumstances when the animal's health is threatened, or suffering or death may occur if treatment is not received.[2]

What is extralabel drug use and when is it allowed?
Extralabel drug use is defined as the use of a drug in an animal in a manner that does not follow the approved labeling. Extralabel use is allowed in some food-producing animals but carries additional requirements because of the potential for drug residue in edible animal products.[2] Some of the additional requirements are listed below.

- A valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship must exist.
- There is no approved animal drug labeled for the treatment need which has the same active ingredient in the required dosage form and concentration; or, the approved animal drug is clinically ineffective for its approved use and an effective substitute is needed.
- The veterinarian must carefully evaluate and diagnose the condition requiring treatment.
- The veterinarian must establish a scientifically appropriate withdrawal period, based on appropriate scientific information, if available.
- The veterinarian must ensure that the treated animal's identity is carefully documented and maintained.
- The veterinarian must ensure that the assigned withdrawal times are observed and no illegal drug residues occur in any food-producing animal receiving extralabel drug treatment.

The complete list of extralabel drug use requirements can be found in Title 21 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Part 530 (21 CFR part 530).

PROHIBITED USES

Cephalosporin (excluding cephapirin) **MAY NOT** be used in swine and other species, including cattle, chickens or turkeys:

- For disease prevention purposes.
- At unapproved doses, frequencies, durations or routes of administration.
- If the drug is not approved for that species or production class (e.g., intended only for humans or companion animals, or approved for use in sows but the intended use is boars).[1]

ALLOWABLE USES

Provided that all other conditions for legal extralabel use are met, the following cephalosporins are approved for use in swine - Excede for Swine (ceftiofur crystalline free acid), Excenel RTU EZ (ceftiofur hydrochloride) and Naxcel (ceftiofur sodium) - and **MAY** be used for treatment and control of other non-labeled bacterial pathogens if:

- The drug is approved for that species or production class; *and*,
- Is used according to labeled dose, frequency, duration and route of administration.[1] Refer to the full prescribing information for each product, which is attached.

People with known hypersensitivity to penicillin or cephalosporins should avoid exposure to **EXCEDE**. Do not use in swine found to be hypersensitive to the product. Pre-slaughter withdrawal time is 14 days following the last dose. See full Prescribing Information, attached.

People with known hypersensitivity to penicillin or cephalosporins should avoid exposure to **EXCENEL RTU EZ**. Do not use in swine found to be hypersensitive. Withdraw 6 days prior to slaughter when injection site volumes are greater than 5 mL up to 15 mL per injection site and 4 days prior to slaughter when injection site volumes are less than or equal to 5 mL per injection site. See full Prescribing Information, attached.

People with known hypersensitivity to penicillin or cephalosporins should avoid exposure to **NAXCEL**. **NAXCEL** has a pre-slaughter withdrawal time of four days. Do not use in animals found to be hypersensitive to the product. See full Prescribing Information, attached.

[1]New Animal Drugs; Cephalosporin Drugs; Extralabel Animal Drug Use; Order of Prohibition, 77 Fed. Reg. 735 (January 6, 2012) (to be codified at 21 C.F.R. pt. 530).
[2]U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Cephalosporin Order of Prohibition Questions and Answers. fda.gov. Updated April 29, 2022. Accessed January 6, 2023. https://www.fda.gov/animal-veterinary/antimicrobial-resistance/cephalosporin-order-prohibition-questions-and-answers.

EXCEDE® FOR SWINE

(Ceftiofur Crystalline Free Acid)

Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL

For intramuscular administration in the post-auricular region of the neck of swine.

CAUTION

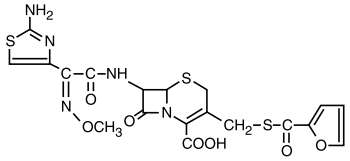
Federal (USA) law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. Federal Law prohibits extra-label use of this drug in swine for disease prevention purposes; at unapproved doses; frequencies, durations, or routes of administration; and in unapproved major food producing species/production classes.

DESCRIPTION

EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL is a ready-to-use formulation that contains the crystalline free acid of ceftiofur, which is a broad spectrum cephalosporin antibiotic active against gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria including ß-lactamase-producing strains. Like other cephalosporins, ceftiofur is bactericidal *in vitro*, resulting from inhibition of cell wall synthesis.

Each mL of this ready-to-use sterile suspension contains ceftiofur crystalline free acid equivalent to 100 mg ceftiofur, in a Miglyol® and cottonseed oil based suspension.

Figure 1. Structure of ceftiofur crystalline free acid:



Chemical name of ceftiofur crystalline free acid:
7-[[2-(2-Amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetyl]amino]-3-[[(2-furanylcarbonyl)thio]methyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene 2-carboxylic acid

INDICATIONS

EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL is indicated for the treatment of swine respiratory disease (SRD) associated with *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, Pasteurella multocida, Haemophilus parasuis,* and *Streptococcus suis;* and for the control of SRD associated with *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, Pasteurella multocida, Haemophilus parasuis,* and *Streptococcus suis* in groups of pigs where SRD has been diagnosed.

DOSAGE

Administer by intramuscular (IM) injection in the post-auricular region of the neck as a single dosage of 2.27 mg ceftiofur equivalents (CE)/lb (5.0 mg CE/kg) body weight (BW). This is equivalent to 1 mL sterile suspension per 44 lb (20 kg) BW. No more than 2 mL should be injected in a single injection site. Injection volumes in excess of 2 mL per injection site may result in violative residues. Pigs heavier than 88 lb (40 kg) will require more than one injection.

Most animals will respond to treatment within three to five days. If no improvement is observed, the diagnosis should be re-evaluated.

ADMINISTRATION

Shake well before using. EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL is to be administered by intramuscular injection in the post-auricular region of the neck.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

As with all drugs, the use of EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL is contraindicated in animals previously found to be hypersensitive to the drug.

WARNINGS

FOR USE IN ANIMALS ONLY.
NOT FOR HUMAN USE. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

Penicillins and cephalosporins can cause allergic reactions in sensitized individuals. Topical exposures to such antimicrobials, including ceftiofur, may elicit mild to severe allergic reactions in some individuals. Repeated or prolonged exposure may lead to sensitization. Avoid direct contact of the product with the skin, eyes, mouth and clothing. Sensitization of the skin may be avoided by wearing protective gloves.

Persons with a known hypersensitivity to penicillin or cephalosporins should avoid exposure to this product.

In case of accidental eye exposure, flush with water for 15 minutes. In case of accidental skin exposure, wash with soap and water. Remove contaminated clothing. If allergic reaction occurs (e.g., skin rash, hives, difficult breathing), seek medical attention.

The material safety data sheet contains more detailed occupational safety information. To report adverse effects in users, to obtain more information or to obtain a material safety data sheet, call 1-888-963-8471.

RESIDUE WARNINGS

- A maximum of 2 mL of formulation should be injected at each injection site. Injection volumes in excess of 2 mL per injection site may result in violative residues.
- Following label use as a single treatment, a 14-day pre-slaughter withdrawal period is required.
- **Use of dosages in excess of 5.0 mg ceftiofur equivalents (CE)/kg or administration by an unapproved route may result in illegal residues in edible tissues.**

PRECAUTIONS

The safety of ceftiofur has not been demonstrated for pregnant swine or swine intended for breeding.

Administration of EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL as directed may induce a transient reaction at the site of injection and underlying tissues that may result in trim loss of edible tissue at slaughter.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

An injection site tolerance study demonstrated that EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL is well tolerated in pigs. Half of the injection sites at both 3 and 7 days post-injection were scored as "negative" for irritation and the other half were scored as "slight irritation". All gross observations and measurements of injection sites qualified the sites at 10 days post-injection as "negative" for irritation.

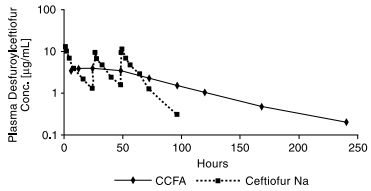
No adverse effects were observed in multi-location field efficacy studies involving more than 1000 pigs.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Ceftiofur administered as either ceftiofur sodium (NAXCEL® Sterile Powder), ceftiofur hydrochloride (EXCENEL® RTU Sterile Suspension) or ceftiofur crystalline free acid (EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL) is metabolized rapidly to desfuroylceftiofur, the primary metabolite. Administration of ceftiofur to swine as ceftiofur crystalline free acid (CCFA) at a single IM dosage of 2.27 mg CE/lb (5.0 mg CE/kg) BW provides concentrations of ceftiofur and desfuroylceftiofurrelated metabolites in plasma that are multiples above the MIC_{90}* for the SRD label pathogens *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, Pasteurella multocida, Haemophilus parasuis* and *Streptococcus suis* for an extended period of time (see Figure 2 and Tables 1–2).

The average plasma concentrations of ceftiofur- and desfuroylceftiofur-related metabolites for CCFA (EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL) after IM administration of 2.27 mg CE/lb (5.0 mg CE/kg) BW and those for ceftiofur sodium (NAXCEL Sterile Powder) after IM administration at 1.36 mg CE/lb (3 mg CE/kg) BW for three consecutive days are presented in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2. Average plasma concentrations of ceftiofur- and desfuroylceftiofur-related metabolites for CCFA (EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL) after IM administration of 2.27 mg CE/lb (5.0 mg CE/kg) BW and those for ceftiofur sodium (NAXCEL Sterile Powder) after IM administration at 1.36 mg CE/lb (3 mg CE/kg) BW for three consecutive days



Pharmacokinetic parameters measured after a single IM administration of 2.27 mg CE/lb (5.0 mg CE/kg) BW of EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL in the post-auricular region of the neck of swine are presented in the following table (Table 1).

* Minimum inhibitory concentration for 90% of the isolates

Table 1. Pharmacokinetic parameters in swine after a single IM administration of EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL at 2.27 mg CE/lb (5.0 mg CE/kg) BW

Pharmacokinetic Parameter	Mean Value ± Standard Deviation (non-compartmental analyses)
C_{max} (µg/mL)	4.17 ± 0.92
t_{max} (h)	22.0 ± 12.2
$AUC_{0\text{-}LOQ}$ (µg•h/mL)	373.0 ± 56.1
$t_{1/2}$ (h)	49.6 ± 11.8

C_{max} = maximum plasma concentration (in µg CE/mL)
t_{max} = the time after injection when C_{max} occurs (in hours)
$AUC_{0\text{-}LOQ}$ = the area under the plasma concentration vs. time curve from time of injection to the limit of quantitation of the assay (0.15 µg CE/mL)
$t_{1/2}$ = terminal phase biological half-life (in hours)

Table 2. Ceftiofur minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values* of indicated pathogens isolated from SRD treatment and control field studies conducted in the U.S.

Indicated Pathogens	Year(s) of Isolation	Field Study	Number of Isolates	MIC_{50}** (µg/mL)	MIC_{90}** (µg/mL)	MIC Range (µg/mL)
Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae	2000 to 2001	Treatment	5	NA	NA	≤0.03 to 0.06
	2009	Control	34	0.03	0.06	0.015 to 0.06
Pasteurella multocida	2000 to 2001	Treatment	20	≤0.03	≤0.03	≤0.03†
	2009	Control	67	≤0.004	≤0.004	≤0.004†
Streptococcus suis	2000 to 2001	Treatment	30	0.06	0.12	≤0.03 to 0.5
	2009	Control	141	0.25	1	0.03 to >2

* The correlation between *in vitro* susceptibility data and clinical effectiveness is unknown.
** The lowest MIC to encompass 50% and 90% of the most susceptible isolates, respectively.
† No range; all isolates yielded the same value.

MICROBIOLOGY

Ceftiofur has demonstrated *in vitro* activity against *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, Pasteurella multocida, Haemophilus parasuis,* and *Streptococcus suis,* four major pathogenic bacteria associated with SRD.

The minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs) of ceftiofur against indicated SRD pathogens were determined using methods recommended by the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) using the M31-A and M31-A3 standards for the SRD treatment (2000-2001) and control (2009) studies, respectively. Isolates from the SRD treatment study were obtained from lung tissue collected from non-treated pigs prior to enrollment and saline-treated pigs that died or were euthanized during the study. Isolates from the SRD control study were obtained from lung tissue from non-treated pigs euthanized prior to enrollment and from saline- and ceftiofur-treated pigs that died or were euthanized during the study. The susceptibility results for the treatment and control studies are presented in Table 2.

Based on pharmacokinetic data from studies of ceftiofur in swine after a single intramuscular injection of 2.27 mg CE/lb (5.0 mg CE/kg) BW, the following interpretive criteria are recommended by CLSI:

Table 3. CLSI-accepted interpretive criteria for ceftiofur against swine respiratory disease pathogens*

Pathogens	Disk Potency	Zone Diameter (mm)	MIC (µg/mL)	Interpretation
Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae	30 µg	≥21	≤2.0	(S) Susceptible
Pasteurella multocida		18-20	4.0	(I) Intermediate
Streptococcus suis		≤17	≥8.0	(R) Resistant

* These interpretive criteria should only be used when the CLSI M31-A3 performance standard is used to determine antimicrobial susceptibility to ceftiofur.

EFFECTIVENESS

The effectiveness of a single dose of 2.27 or 3.18 mg CE/lb BW (5.0 or 7.0 mg CE/kg BW) EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL for the treatment of SRD was confirmed in a well-controlled, multi-location field study. A total of 706 pigs with clinical signs of bacterial respiratory disease were enrolled and treated with a placebo injection or EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL administered as a single IM injection in the post-auricular region of the neck. Clinical observations were performed on Days 1-7 and rectal temperatures were taken on Days 1, 3, and 6 following treatment (Day 0). Necropsies were performed on all pigs that died during the study and after euthanasia of all remaining study pigs at the end of the 14-day post-enrollment study period. Lung lesions were scored and lungs were submitted for bacterial identification. Mortality rates were numerically lower (but not statistically different) for the EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL-treated groups (4.3% for the 5.0 mg CE/kg BW group and 4.2% for the 7.0 mg CE/kg BW group) compared with the placebo-treated control group (6.3%). There was a statistically significant ($p<0.05$) improvement in clinical cure rates for the EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL-treated groups (24.8% for the 5.0 mg CE/kg BW group and 26.4% for the 7.0 mg CE/kg BW group) compared with the placebo-treated control group (17.7%). Lung lesion scores were numerically higher (but not statistically different) for the EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL-treated groups (10.4% for both the 5.0 mg CE/kg BW and the 7.0 mg CE/kg BW group) compared with the placebo-treated control group (9.2%). Bacteriological culture of the lungs of study pigs identified the following respiratory pathogens: *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, Pasteurella multocida, Haemophilus parasuis,* and *Streptococcus suis.*

The effectiveness of a single dose of 2.27 CE/lb BW (5.0 mg CE/kg BW) EXCEDE FOR SWINE for the control of SRD was evaluated in a multi-location natural infection field study. At each site, when at least 15% of the study candidates in a pen showed clinical signs of SRD, all pigs in the pen were enrolled and treated with EXCEDE FOR SWINE (n = 346) or saline (n = 347). Responses to treatment were evaluated 7 days post-treatment. Success was defined as a pig that survived to Day 7 and had normal attitude, normal respiration, and a rectal temperature of < 104 °F. The treatment success rate was significantly higher ($p = 0.0188$) for EXCEDE FOR SWINE-treated pigs (59.6%) compared to the saline-treated pigs (41.4%). Bacteriological culture of the lungs of study pigs identified the following respiratory pathogens: *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, Pasteurella multocida, Haemophilus parasuis,* and *Streptococcus suis.*

Table 4. Acceptable quality control ranges for ceftiofur against CLSI recommended American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) reference strains

Organism Name (ATCC No.)	MIC (µg/mL)	Zone Diameter, mm (Disk Content 30 µg)
E. coli ATCC 25922	0.25–1.0	26–31
S. aureus ATCC 29213	0.25–1.0	—
S. aureus ATCC 25923	—	27–31
P. aeruginosa ATCC 27853	16.0–64.0	14–18

ANIMAL SAFETY

After parenteral administration, CCFA, ceftiofur sodium, and ceftiofur hydrochloride are metabolized to the same principal metabolite, desfuroylceftiofur. Plasma levels achieved are similar after recommended dosing (Figure 2). Therefore, studies conducted with ceftiofur sodium are adequate to evaluate the systemic safety of CCFA. Results from a five-day tolerance study in normal feeder pigs indicated that ceftiofur sodium produced no overt adverse signs of toxicity and was well tolerated when administered at 57 mg CE/lb (125 mg/kg) BW (more than 25 times the recommended dosage of CCFA) for five consecutive days. An additional dose toxicity study was conducted to determine the safety margin of ceftiofur in swine. Five barrows and five gilts per group were administered ceftiofur sodium IM at 0, 2.27, 6.81 and 11.36 mg CE/lb (0, 5, 15, 25 mg CE/kg) BW (0, 1, 3 and 5 times the recommended dosage for CCFA) for 15 consecutive days. There were no adverse systemic effects observed, indicating that ceftiofur sodium has a wide margin of safety when administered intramuscularly in feeder pigs.

A separate study evaluated the injection site tissue tolerance of EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL in swine when administered intramuscularly as a single injection at the maximum recommended dose volume of 2 mL (approximately 5 mg CE/kg BW) per injection site. Because injection site volumes greater than 2 mL may result in violative residues, only injection volumes of 2 mL were evaluated in this study. EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL was injected intramuscularly into each side of the neck of six swine at a dose volume of 2 mL/injection site. Clinical observations were made daily. At 3, 7 and 10 days post-injection, pairs of animals were euthanized and the neck injection sites were dissected for pathological examination (4 injection sites per time point). The injections were well tolerated in all pigs. Clinically, injection site reactions ranged from nondetectable (6 of 12 sites) to a transitory (up to 4 days post-injection) palpable, nonvisible swelling (2 of 12 sites) or a small, visible, reddened nodule at the needle insertion point (4 of 12 sites; 3 of 4 nodules were barely detectable by 3 to 7 days post-injection). There was no clinical evidence of the injections at 10 days post-injection. At necropsy, half of the injection sites at both 3 and 7 days post-injection were scored as “negative” for irritation and the other half were scored as “slight irritation”. One animal had a visible lesion described as an area of tan with red speckles present in the deep muscle fascia, less than 6 cm^2, at 10 days post-injection; this lesion and the remaining injection sites evaluated at 10 days post-injection were scored as “negative” for irritation.

STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store at controlled room temperature 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F). Shake well before using. Contents should be used within 12 weeks after the first dose is removed.

HOW SUPPLIED

EXCEDE FOR SWINE Sterile Suspension 100 mg/mL is available in the following package size:
100 mL vial

NADA #141-235, Approved by FDA

zoetis

Distributed by:
Zoetis Inc.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

www.excede.com or call
1-888-963-8471

Revised: November 2013

11148001A&P

EXCENEL® RTU EZ
Ceftiofur Hydrochloride
Sterile Suspension

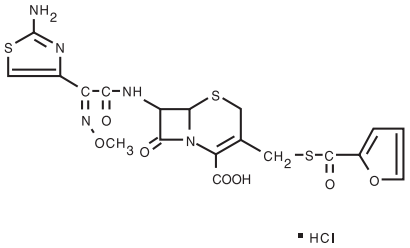
For intramuscular injection in swine.

CAUTION: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. Federal law prohibits extra-label use of this drug in swine for disease prevention purposes; at unapproved doses, frequencies, durations, or routes of administration; and in unapproved major food producing species/production classes.

DESCRIPTION

EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension is a ready to use formulation that contains the hydrochloride salt of ceftiofur, which is a broad spectrum cephalosporin antibiotic. Each mL of this ready-to-use sterile suspension contains ceftiofur hydrochloride equivalent to 50 mg ceftiofur, 2.50 mg polyoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate (polysorbate 80), 6.5 mg water for injection in a caprylic/capric triglyceride suspension.

Figure 1. Structure:



• HCl

Chemical Name of Ceftiofur Hydrochloride: 5-Thia-1-azabicyclo[4,2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid, 7-[[(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)(methoxyimino)-acetyl]amino]-3-[[(2-furanylcarbonyl)thio]methyl]-8-oxo-,hydrochloride salt [6R-[6α,7β(Z)]]-

INDICATIONS

Swine: EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension is indicated for treatment/control of swine bacterial respiratory disease (swine bacterial pneumonia) associated with *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, Pasteurella multocida, Salmonella* Choleraesuis and *Streptococcus suis.*

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Shake well before using.

Swine: Administer intramuscularly at a dosage of 1.36 to 2.27 mg ceftiofur equivalents (CE)/lb (3 to 5 mg CE/kg) body weight (BW) (1 mL of sterile suspension per 22 to 37 lb BW). Treatment should be repeated at 24 hour intervals for a total of three consecutive days. Do not inject more than 15 mL per injection site.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

As with all drugs, the use of EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension is contraindicated in animals previously found to be hypersensitive to the drug.

WARNINGS

NOT FOR HUMAN USE. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

Penicillins and cephalosporins can cause allergic reactions in sensitized individuals. Topical exposures to such antimicrobials, including ceftiofur, may elicit mild to severe allergic reactions in some individuals. Repeated or prolonged exposure may lead to sensitization. Avoid direct contact of the product with the skin, eyes, mouth and clothing.

Persons with a known hypersensitivity to penicillin or cephalosporins should avoid exposure to this product.

In case of accidental eye exposure, flush with water for 15 minutes. In case of accidental skin exposure, wash with soap and water. Remove contaminated clothing. If allergic reaction occurs (e.g., skin rash, hives, difficult breathing), seek medical attention.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For a copy of the Safety Data Sheet or to report adverse reactions, call Zoetis Inc. at 1-888-963-8471. For additional information about adverse drug experience reporting for animal drugs, contact FDA at 1-888-FDA-VETS or www.fda.gov/reportanimalae.

RESIDUE WARNINGS:

Swine: Injection site volume affects the withdrawal period in swine. When used according to label indications, dosage, and route of administration, treated swine must not be slaughtered for 6 days following the last treatment when injection site volumes are greater than 5 mL up to the maximum injection site volume of 15 mL. When used according to label indications, dosage, and route of administration, treated swine must not be slaughtered for 4 days when injection site volumes are less than or equal to 5 mL. **Do not inject more than 15 mL per injection site.** Use of dosages or injection volumes in excess of those indicated or by unapproved routes of administration may result in illegal residues in edible tissues.

PRECAUTIONS

The effects of ceftiofur on swine reproductive performance, pregnancy and lactation have not been determined.

Intramuscular injection in swine can cause a transient local tissue reaction that may result in trim loss of edible tissue at slaughter.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Swine: Ceftiofur administered as either ceftiofur sodium or ceftiofur hydrochloride is metabolized rapidly to desfuroylceftiofur, the primary metabolite. Administration of ceftiofur to swine as either the sodium or hydrochloride salt provides effective concentrations of ceftiofur and desfuroylceftiofur metabolites in plasma above the lowest minimum inhibitory concentration to encompass 90% of the most susceptible isolates (MIC_{90}) for the labeled pathogens: *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, Pasteurella multocida, Streptococcus suis* and *Salmonella* Choleraesuis for the 24 hour period between the dosing intervals. The MIC_{90} for *Salmonella* Choleraesuis (1 µg/mL) is higher than the other three pathogens and plasma concentrations exceed this value for the entire dosing interval only after the 2.27 mg/lb (5 mg/kg) BW dose.

Comparative Bioavailability Summary

The current EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension formulation replaces a previously approved formulation. The previously approved EXCENEL RTU EZ product was a reformulation of another ceftiofur hydrochloride injectable product, EXCENEL RTU Sterile Suspension (NADA 140-890). Comparable plasma concentrations of ceftiofur administered as EXCENEL RTU Sterile Suspension or the reformulated EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension were demonstrated in a comparative two-treatment, two-period crossover relative bioavailability study in swine. Products were administered via intramuscular (IM) injection into the neck, using alternating sides during periods 1 and 2. A summary of average plasma pharmacokinetic (PK) parameters in swine after a single IM administration of EXCENEL RTU Sterile Suspension and EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension at a dose of 2.27 mg CE/lb (5 mg CE/kg) BW is provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Comparative treatment values (arithmetic mean ± SD) for the plasma PK estimates of total ceftiofur (parent compound plus desfuroylceftiofur metabolites) in swine following an IM administration of 2.27 mg CE/lb (5 mg CE/kg) BW, as either EXCENEL RTU (reference article) or as EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension (test article).

PK Parameter	EXCENEL RTU	EXCENEL RTU EZ
C_{max} (µg/mL)	18.2 ± 4.09	19.7 ± 3.39
$AUC_{0\text{-}LOQ}$ (µg*h/mL)	257 ± 57.1	263 ± 54.8
t_{max} (h)	1.5 ± 0.49	1.5 ± 0.73
$t_{1/2}$ (h)	20.0 ± 1.56	20.0 ± 1.82
$t_{>0.2}$ (h)	83.1 ± 10.3	82.5 ± 10.5

C_{max} - maximum plasma concentration
$AUC_{0\text{-}LOQ}$ - the area under the plasma concentration vs. time curve from time of injection to the limit of quantification of the assay
t_{max} - the time after initial injection to when C_{max} occurs
$t_{1/2}$ - the plasma half life of the drug
$t_{>0.2}$ - the time plasma concentrations remain above 0.2 µg/mL.

The standard bioequivalence (BE) criteria, based upon the exponentiated 90% confidence bounds about the ratio of treatment means, were met for the pivotal bioequivalence parameters, $AUC_{0\text{-}LOQ}$ and C_{max}, when each formulation was administered to swine IM at a dose rate of 2.27 mg CE/lb (5 mg CE/kg) BW (Table 2).

Table 2: Back-transformed least squares (LS) means and 90% confidence interval (CI) for the two pivotal pharmacokinetic parameters, C_{max} and $AUC_{0\text{-}LOQ}$ in swine following an IM administration of 2.27 mg CE/lb (5 mg CE/kg) BW, as either EXCENEL RTU (reference article) or as EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension (test article).

PK Parameter	LS Mean Difference	90% CI	BE†
C_{max}	1.10	1.03 to 1.18	Yes
$AUC_{0\text{-}LOQ}$	1.03	0.99 to 1.06	Yes

† If the 90% CI of the LS mean difference is within the limits of 0.80 to 1.25, then the results support bioequivalence of treatment groups

In another comparative bioavailability PK study (previously reviewed under NADA 140-890), comparable plasma concentrations of ceftiofur, administered as EXCENEL RTU Sterile Suspension or as NAXCEL Sterile Powder, were demonstrated when each product was administered intramuscularly at the upper end of the label dose range [2.27 mg CE/lb (5 mg CE/kg) BW]. The bioequivalence criteria were met for the $AUC_{0\text{-}LOQ}$, C_{max}, and $t_{>0.2}$ when both products were administered by an intramuscular injection to swine at a dose rate of 5 mg CE/kg BW.

The effectiveness of injection site volumes greater than 5 mL to 15 mL was supported by a comparison of the length of time (hours) that plasma concentrations remained above 0.2 µg/mL ($t_{>0.2}$) between injection site volumes less than or equal to 5 mL and injection site volumes greater than 5 mL to 12 mL. Statistical analysis allowed for an extrapolation of these findings to 15 mL per site. The pharmacokinetic data demonstrated that 5 mg/kg administered IM at injection volumes from greater than 5 mL to 15 mL resulted in acceptable $t_{>0.2}$ for the indication.

MICROBIOLOGY

EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension is a ready-to-use formulation that contains the hydrochloride salt of ceftiofur. Ceftiofur is a broad-spectrum cephalosporin antibiotic active against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. Like other cephalosporins, ceftiofur is predominantly bactericidal *in vitro*, resulting in the inhibition of cell wall synthesis. *In vitro* activity of ceftiofur has been demonstrated against *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*, *Pasteurella multocida*, and *Salmonella* Choleraesuis, three pathogens associated with swine respiratory disease.

Utilizing data that included isolates from swine affected by respiratory disease, zone diameter and minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) breakpoints were determined using standardized procedures from the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI, formerly National Committee of Clinical Laboratory Standards) M31-A2. The CLSI-accepted interpretive criteria for ceftiofur against these Gram-negative pathogens are shown in Table 5.

Table 5: CLSI-accepted interpretive criteria for ceftiofur against swine respiratory pathogens.*

Pathogen	Disk potency	Zone diameter interpretive standards (mm)			MIC breakpoint (µg/mL)		
		S	I	R	S	I	R
Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae *Pasteurella multocida* *Salmonella* Choleraesuis	30 µg	≥ 21	18 to 20	≤ 17	≤ 2.0	4.0	≥ 8.0
S – Susceptible I – Intermediate R – Resistant							

* These interpretive criteria are only intended for use when CLSI M31-A2 performance standards are used to determine antimicrobial susceptibility.

EFFECTIVENESS

Swine: Plasma concentrations of ceftiofur administered as EXCENEL RTU Sterile Suspension or as EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension following intramuscular administration in swine were compared and found to be bioequivalent for $AUC_{0\text{-}LOQ}$ and C_{max}. Therefore, EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension has the same effectiveness profile as previously established for EXCENEL RTU Sterile Suspension. Because the effectiveness of cephalosporin antibiotics is dependent upon time above MIC, EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension is considered effective for the treatment/control of swine respiratory disease.

ANIMAL SAFETY

Swine: Evaluation of target animal safety in swine was based on a PK comparison between the reformulated EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension and EXCENEL RTU Sterile Suspension. Ceftiofur administered to swine as the reformulated EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension at a dose of 5 mg CE/kg BW by IM injection was demonstrated to be bioequivalent to a corresponding IM injection of EXCENEL RTU Sterile Suspension based upon comparability of their respective $AUC_{0\text{-}LOQ}$ and C_{max} values (see EFFECTIVENESS section). Because of the demonstrated blood level bioequivalence, this study confirms the systemic safety of the reformulated EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension in swine when administered by IM injection at a dose of 5 mg CE/kg BW for three consecutive days.

Injection site tissue tolerance and resolution were evaluated after administering EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension by intramuscular injection to 8 young pigs with at least the maximum proposed volume of 5 mL per injection site once daily for three consecutive days. Each injection was administered in a different location on the neck, and injection sites alternated between the left and right sides. General health and injection sites were evaluated through 42 days after the first treatment. No test article-related health issues were observed. Mild swelling, erythema, and firmness was observed in a very small number of occasions (≤ 2% of total observations). No swelling was observed from 3 days after the last injection through the end of the study. Grossly visible discoloration of the injection site and histopathologic changes consistent with inflammation were noted in treated pigs necropsied 7 days or 14 days after injection.

A second injection site tissue tolerance study was conducted in 16 adult commercial crossbred pigs to evaluate the administration of EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension by intramuscular injection with a maximum dose volume of 15 mL per injection site once daily for three consecutive days. Each injection was administered in a different location on the neck and injection sites alternated between the left and right sides. General health and injection sites were evaluated through 42 days after the first treatment. No test article-related health issues were observed. No swelling, erythema, or firmness were observed during the study. Gross necropsy and histopathologic changes consistent with inflammation were noted in treated pigs necropsied up to 42 days after injection.

TISSUE RESIDUE DEPLETION

Swine: Radiolabeled residue metabolism studies established tolerances for ceftiofur residues in swine kidney, liver and muscle. The tolerances for ceftiofur residues are 0.25 ppm in kidney, 3 ppm in liver and 2 ppm in muscle.

A pivotal tissue residue decline study was conducted in swine. In this study, pigs received 2.27 mg of ceftiofur per lb body weight (5 mg of ceftiofur per kg body weight) per day for three consecutive days with an injection volume of 5 mL per site. Ceftiofur residues in edible tissues were less than the tolerances for ceftiofur at 4 days after dosing.

A second pivotal tissue residue decline study was conducted in large swine. In this study, animals received 3 consecutive once daily doses of EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension by intramuscular injection at a dose rate of 2.27 mg of ceftiofur per lb body weight (5 mg CFAE/kg BW) with a maximum injection volume of 15 mL per injection site. Ceftiofur residues in tissues were below the tolerance in kidney by 6 days after dosing.

Collectively, the data from these two studies support a 4-day pre-slaughter withdrawal period in swine receiving injection site volumes less than or equal to 5 mL and a 6-day withdrawal period when receiving injection site volumes greater than 5 mL up to 15 mL per injection site.

STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store at controlled room temperature 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F); excursions permitted 15° to 40°C (59° to 104°F). Protect from freezing. Shake well before using. Contents should be used within 42 days after the first dose is removed.

HOW SUPPLIED

EXCENEL RTU EZ Sterile Suspension is available in 100 mL and 250 mL vials.

Approved by FDA under NADA # 141-288

Revised: July 2022

zoetis

Distributed by:
Zoetis Inc.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

50175402A&P

Naxcel®

brand of ceftiofur sodium
sterile powder

For intramuscular and subcutaneous injection in cattle only. For intramuscular injection in swine, sheep, goats, and horses. For subcutaneous injection only in dogs, day-old chickens and day-old turkey poults. This product may be used in lactating dairy cattle, sheep, and goats.

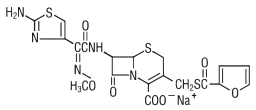
CAUTION: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. Federal law prohibits extra-label use of this drug in cattle, swine, chickens and turkeys for disease prevention purposes; at unapproved doses, frequencies, durations, or routes of administration; and in unapproved major food producing species/production classes.

DESCRIPTION

NAXCEL Sterile Powder contains the sodium salt of ceftiofur which is a broad spectrum cephalosporin antibiotic active against gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria including β-lactamase-producing strains. Like other cephalosporins, ceftiofur is bactericidal *in vitro*, resulting from inhibition of cell wall synthesis.

Each mL of the reconstituted drug contains ceftiofur sodium equivalent to 50 mg ceftiofur. The pH was adjusted with sodium hydroxide and monobasic potassium phosphate.

Chemical Structure of Ceftiofur Sodium



Chemical Name of Ceftiofur Sodium

5-Thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid, 7-[[(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)(methoxyimino)-acetyl]amino]-3-[[(2-furanylcarbonyl)thio] methyl]-8-oxo-, monosodium salt, [6R-[6α,7β(Z)]]-

RECONSTITUTION OF THE STERILE POWDER

NAXCEL Sterile Powder should be reconstituted as follows:

1 gram vial—Reconstitute with 20 mL Sterile Water for Injection. Each mL of the resulting solution contains ceftiofur sodium equivalent to 50 mg ceftiofur.

4 gram vial—Reconstitute with 80 mL Sterile Water for Injection. Each mL of the resulting solution contains ceftiofur sodium equivalent to 50 mg ceftiofur.

Shake thoroughly prior to use.

INDICATIONS

Cattle

NAXCEL Sterile Powder is indicated for treatment of bovine respiratory disease (shipping fever, pneumonia) associated with *Mannheimia haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida* and *Histophilus somni.* NAXCEL Sterile Powder is also indicated for treatment of acute bovine interdigital necrobacillosis (foot rot, pododermatitis) associated with *Fusobacterium necrophorum* and *Bacteroides melaninogenicus*.

Swine

NAXCEL Sterile Powder is indicated for treatment/control of swine bacterial respiratory disease (swine bacterial pneumonia) associated with *Actinobacillus (Haemophilus) pleuropneumoniae, Pasteurella multocida, Salmonella choleraesuis* and *Streptococcus suis*.

Sheep

NAXCEL Sterile Powder is indicated for treatment of sheep respiratory disease (sheep pneumonia) associated with *Mannheimia haemolytica* and *Pasteurella multocida.*

Goats

NAXCEL Sterile Powder is indicated for treatment of caprine respiratory disease (goat pneumonia) associated with *Mannheimia haemolytica* and *Pasteurella multocida.*

Horses

NAXCEL Sterile Powder is indicated for treatment of respiratory infections in horses associated with *Streptococcus zooepidemicus.*

Dogs

NAXCEL Sterile Powder is indicated for the treatment of canine urinary tract infections associated with *Escherichia coli* and *Proteus mirabilis.*

Day-Old Chicks

NAXCEL Sterile Powder is indicated for the control of early mortality, associated with *E. coli* organisms susceptible to ceftiofur, in day-old chicks.

Day-Old Turkey Poults

NAXCEL Sterile Powder is indicated for the control of early mortality, associated with *E. coli* organisms susceptible to ceftiofur, in day-old turkey poults.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Cattle

Administer to cattle by intramuscular or subcutaneous injection at the dosage of 0.5 to 1.0 mg ceftiofur per pound (1.1 to 2.2 mg/kg) of body weight (1-2 mL reconstituted sterile solution per 100 lbs body weight). Treatment should be repeated at 24-hour intervals for a total of three consecutive days. Additional treatments may be given on days four and five for animals which do not show a satisfactory response (not recovered) after the initial three treatments. Selection of dosage (0.5 to 1.0 mg/lb) should be based on the practitioner's judgement of severity of disease (i.e., for respiratory disease, extent of elevated body temperature, depressed physical appearance, increased respiratory rate, coughing and/or loss of appetite; and for foot rot, extent of swelling, lesion and severity of lameness).

Swine

Administer to swine by intramuscular injection at the dosage of 1.36 to 2.27 mg ceftiofur per pound (3.0 to 5.0 mg/kg) of body weight (1 mL of reconstituted sterile solution per 22 to 37 lbs body weight). Treatment should be repeated at 24-hour intervals for a total of three consecutive days.

Sheep

Administer to sheep by intramuscular injection at the dosage of 0.5 to 1.0 mg ceftiofur per pound (1.1 to 2.2 mg/kg) of body weight (1-2 mL reconstituted sterile solution per 100 lbs body weight). Treatment should be repeated at 24-hour intervals for a total of three consecutive days. Additional treatments may be given on days four and five for animals which do not show a satisfactory response (not recovered) after the initial three treatments. Selection of dosage (0.5 to 1.0 mg/lb) should be based on the practitioner's judgement of severity of disease (i.e., extent of elevated body temperature, depressed physical appearance, increased respiratory rate, coughing and/or loss of appetite).

Goats

Administer to goats by intramuscular injection at the dosage of 0.5 to 1.0 mg ceftiofur per pound (1.1 to 2.2 mg/kg) of body weight (1-2 mL reconstituted sterile solution per 100 lbs body weight). Treatment should be repeated at 24-hour intervals for a total of three consecutive days. Additional treatments may be given on days four and five for animals which do not show a satisfactory response (not recovered) after the initial three treatments. Selection of dosage (0.5 to 1.0 mg/lb) should be based on the practitioner's judgement of severity of disease (i.e., extent of elevated body temperature, depressed physical appearance, increased respiratory rate, coughing and/or loss of appetite). Pharmacokinetic data indicate that elimination of the drug is more rapid in lactating does. For lactating does, the high end of the dose range is recommended.

Horses

Administer to horses by intramuscular injection at the dosage of 1.0 to 2.0 mg ceftiofur per pound (2.2 to 4.4 mg/kg) of body weight (2-4 mL reconstituted sterile solution per 100 lbs body weight). A maximum of 10 mL may be administered per injection site. Treatment should be repeated at 24-hour intervals, continued for 48 hours after clinical signs have disappeared and should not exceed 10 days.

Dogs

Administer to dogs by subcutaneous injection at the dosage of 1.0 mg ceftiofur per pound (2.2 mg/kg) of body weight (0.1 mL reconstituted sterile solution per 5 lbs body weight). Treatment should be repeated at 24-hour intervals for 5-14 days.

Reconstituted NAXCEL Sterile Powder is to be administered to dogs by subcutaneous injection. No vial closure should be entered more than 20 times. Therefore, only the 1 gram vial is approved for use in dogs.

Day-Old Chicks

Administer by subcutaneous injection in the neck region of day-old chicks at the dosage of 0.08 to 0.20 mg ceftiofur/chick. One mL of the 50 mg/mL reconstituted solution will treat approximately 250 to 625 day-old chicks.

Reconstituted NAXCEL Sterile Powder is to be administered by subcutaneous injection only. A sterile 26 gauge needle and syringe or properly cleaned automatic injection machine should be used.

Day-Old Turkey Poults

Administer by subcutaneous injection in the neck region of day-old turkey poults at the dosage of 0.17 to 0.5 mg ceftiofur/poult. One mL of the 50 mg/mL reconstituted solution will treat approximately 100 to 294 day-old turkey poults.

Reconstituted NAXCEL Sterile Powder is to be administered by subcutaneous injection only.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

As with all drugs, the use of NAXCEL Sterile Powder is contraindicated in animals previously found to be hypersensitive to the drug.

WARNINGS

NOT FOR HUMAN USE. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

Penicillins and cephalosporins can cause allergic reactions in sensitized individuals. Topical exposures to such antimicrobials, including ceftiofur, may elicit mild to severe allergic reactions in some individuals. Repeated or prolonged exposure may lead to sensitization. Avoid direct contact of the product with the skin, eyes, mouth, and clothing.

Persons with a known hypersensitivity to penicillin or cephalosporins should avoid exposure to this product.

In case of accidental eye exposure, flush with water for 15 minutes. In case of accidental skin exposure, wash with soap and water. Remove contaminated clothing. If allergic reaction occurs (e.g., skin rash, hives, difficult breathing), seek medical attention.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For a copy of the Safety Data Sheet or to report adverse reactions, call Zoetis Inc. at 1-888-963-8471. For additional information about adverse drug experience reporting for animal drugs, contact FDA at 1-888-FDA-VETS or www.fda.gov/reportanimalae.

RESIDUE WARNINGS:

Cattle: When used according to label indications, dosage and routes of administration, treated cattle must not be slaughtered for 4 days following the last treatment. When used according to label indications, dosage and routes of administration, a milk discard time is not required. **Use of dosages in excess of those indicated or by unapproved routes of administration, such as intramammary, may result in illegal residues in edible tissues and/or in milk.**

Swine: When used according to label indications, dosage and route of administration, treated pigs must not be slaughtered for 4 days following the last treatment. **Use of dosages in excess of those indicated or by unapproved routes of administration may result in illegal residues in edible tissues.**

Sheep: Neither a pre-slaughter drug withdrawal interval nor a milk discard time is required when this product is used according to label indications, dosage, and route of administration. **Use of dosages in excess of those indicated or by unapproved routes of administration, such as intramammary, may result in illegal residues in edible tissues and/or in milk.**

Goats: Neither a pre-slaughter drug withdrawal interval nor a milk discard time is required when this product is used according to label indications, dosage, and route of administration. **Use of dosages in excess of those indicated or by unapproved routes of administration, such as intramammary, may result in illegal residues in edible tissues and/or in milk.**

Horses: Do not use in horses intended for human consumption.

PRECAUTIONS

The effects of ceftiofur on the reproductive performance, pregnancy, and lactation of cattle, swine, sheep, and goats have not been determined.

Cattle

Following subcutaneous administration of ceftiofur sodium in the neck, small areas of discoloration at the site may persist beyond five days, potentially resulting in trim loss of edible tissues at slaughter.

As with any parenteral injection, localized post-injection bacterial infections may result in abscess formation. Attention to hygienic procedures can minimize their occurrence.

Swine

The safety of ceftiofur has not been determined for swine intended for breeding.

Horses

The safety of ceftiofur has not been determined for horses intended for breeding. The administration of antimicrobials to horses under conditions of stress may be associated with acute diarrhea that could be fatal. If acute diarrhea is observed, discontinue use of this antimicrobial and initiate appropriate therapy.

Dogs

The safety of ceftiofur has not been determined for dogs intended for breeding, or pregnant dogs.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The use of ceftiofur may result in some signs of immediate and transient local pain to the animal.

CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY

Summaries of MIC data are presented in Tables 1 and 2. Testing followed Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) Guidelines.

Table 1. Ceftiofur MIC Values of Bacterial Isolates from Clinical Field Studies in the USA

Animal	Organism	Number Tested	Date Tested	MIC_{90}* (µg/mL)	MIC Range (µg/mL)
Bovine	*Mannheimia haemolytica*	461	1988-1992	0.06	≤0.03-0.13
	Mannheimia haemolytica	42	1993	0.015	≤0.003-0.03
	Pasteurella multocida	318	1988-1992	0.06	≤0.03-0.25
	Pasteurella multocida	48	1993	≤0.003	≤0.003-0.015
	Histophilus somni	109	1988-1992	0.06	≤0.03-0.13
	Histophilus somni	59	1993	≤0.0019	no range
	Fusobacterium necrophorum	17	1994	≤0.06	no range
Swine	*Actinobacillus pleuropn.*	83	1993	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.06
	Pasteurella multocida	74	1993	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.06
	Streptococcus suis	94	1993	0.25	≤0.03-1.0
	Salmonella choleraesuis	50	1993	1.0	1.0-2.0
	beta-hemolytic *Streptococcus* spp.	24	1993	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.06
	Actinobacillus suis	77	1998	0.0078	0.0019-0.0078
	Haemophilus parasuis	76	1998	0.06	0.0039-0.25
Sheep	*Mannheimia haemolytica*	39	1992	0.13	≤0.03-0.13
	Pasteurella multocida	23	1992	≤0.03	no range
Canine	*Escherichia coli*	44	1992	4.0	0.06-64.0
	Escherichia coli	18	1990	0.25	0.13-0.5
	Proteus mirabilis	17	1990	≤0.06	≤0.06-0.5
	Proteus mirabilis	23	1992	1.0	≤0.06-4.0
Turkey	*Escherichia coli*	1204	1995	1.0	0.13->32.0

*Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) for 90% of the isolates.

Table 2. Ceftiofur MIC Values of Bacterial Isolates from Diagnostic Laboratories in the USA and Canada*

Animal	Organism	Number Tested	Date Tested	MIC_{90}** (µg/mL)	MIC Range (µg/mL)
Bovine	*Mannheimia haemolytica*	110	1997-1998	0.06	≤0.03-0.25
	Mannheimia haemolytica	139	1998-1999	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.5
	Mannheimia haemolytica	209	1999-2000	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.12
	Mannheimia haemolytica	189	2000-2001	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.12
	Pasteurella multocida	107	1997-1998	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.25
	Pasteurella multocida	181	1998-1999	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.5
	Pasteurella multocida	208	1999-2000	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.12
	Pasteurella multocida	259	2000-2001	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.12
	Histophilus somni	48	1997-1998	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.25
	Histophilus somni	87	1998-1999	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.125
	Histophilus somni	77	1999-2000	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.06
	Histophilus somni	129	2000-2001	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.12
	Bacteroides fragilis group	29	1994	16.0	≤0.06->16.0
	Bacteroides spp., non-*fragilis* group	12	1994	16.0	0.13->16.0
	Peptostreptococcus anaerobius	12	1994	2.0	0.13-2.0
Swine	*Actinobacillus pleuropn.*	97	1997-1998	≤0.03	no range
	Actinobacillus pleuropn.	111	1998-1999	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.25
	Actinobacillus pleuropn.	126	1999-2000	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.06
	Actinobacillus pleuropn.	89	2000-2001	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.06
	Pasteurella multocida	114	1997-1998	≤0.03	≤0.03-1.0
	Pasteurella multocida	147	1998-1999	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.5
	Pasteurella multocida	173	1999-2000	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.06
	Pasteurella multocida	186	2000-2001	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.12
	Streptococcus suis	106	1997-1998	0.5	≤0.03-4.0
	Streptococcus suis	142	1998-1999	0.25	≤0.03-1.0
	Streptococcus suis	146	1999-2000	0.06	≤0.03-4.0
	Streptococcus suis	167	2000-2001	0.06	≤0.03-4.0
	Salmonella choleraesuis	96	1999-2000	1.0	0.03->4.0
	Salmonella choleraesuis	101	2000-2001	1.0	0.5-2.0
Equine	*Streptococcus equi* subsp. *equi*	12	1994	≤0.0019	no range
	Streptococcus equi subsp. *equi*	29	2002	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.05
	Streptococcus zooepidemicus	48	1994	≤0.0019	no range
	Streptococcus zooepidemicus	59	2002	≤0.03	≤0.03-0.25
	Rhodococcus equi	66	1998	4.0	≤0.03-16.0
	Rhodococcus equi	42	2002	8.0	≤0.03->32.0
	Bacteroides fragilis group	32	1995	>16.0	0.13->16.0
	Bacteroides spp., non-*fragilis* group	12	1995	4.0	0.25-4.0
	Fusobacterium necrophorum	16	1995	≤0.06	no range
Canine	*Escherichia coli*	26	2000	32	0.25->32
	Proteus mirabilis	14	2000	0.25	0.06-0.25
Turkey	*Escherichia coli*	17	1998-1999	1.0	0.25-1.0
	Escherichia coli	25	1999-2000	0.50	0.12-0.5
	Escherichia coli	20	2000-2001	2.0	0.12-16.0
	Citrobacter spp.	37	1995	32.0	0.5->32.0
	Enterobacter spp.	51	1995	>32.0	0.13->32.0
	Klebsiella spp.	100	1995	1.0	0.13-2.0
	Proteus spp.	19	1995	1.0	0.06-32.0
	Pseudomonas spp.***	31	1995	>32.0	0.06->32.0
	Salmonella spp.	24	1995	1.0	0.5-1.0
	Staphylococcus spp. (coagulase positive)	17	1995	2.0	1.0-2.0
	Staphylococcus spp. (coagulase negative)	26	1995	8.0	0.13->32.0
Chicken	*Escherichia coli*	62	1997-1998	0.50	0.25-2.0
	Escherichia coli	53	1998-1999	4.0	0.25->4.0
	Escherichia coli	67	1999-2000	0.50	0.12-16.0
	Escherichia coli	90	2000-2001	1.0	≤0.03-8.0

* The following *in vitro* data are available but their clinical significance is unknown.
** Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) for 90% of the isolates.
*** MIC_{50} is 32 µg/mL

Based on the pharmacokinetic studies of ceftiofur in swine and cattle after a single intramuscular injection of 1.36 to 2.27 mg ceftiofur equivalents/lb (3.0 to 5.0 mg/kg) BW (swine) or 0.5 to 1.0 mg ceftiofur equivalents/lb (1.1 to 2.2 mg/kg) BW (cattle) and the MIC and disk (30 µg) diffusion data, the following breakpoints are recommended by CLSI.

Zone Diameter (mm)	MIC (µg/mL)	Interpretation
≥ 21	≤ 2.0	(S) Susceptible
18-20	4.0	(I) Intermediate
≤ 17	≥ 8.0	(R) Resistant

A report of "Susceptible" indicates that the pathogen is likely to be inhibited by generally achievable blood levels. A report of "Intermediate" is a technical buffer zone and isolates falling into this category should be retested. Alternatively the organism may be successfully treated if the infection is in a body site where drug is physiologically concentrated. A report of "Resistant" indicates that the achievable drug concentrations are unlikely to be inhibitory and other therapy should be selected.

Based on the pharmacokinetic studies of ceftiofur in horses after a single intramuscular injection of 1 mg ceftiofur equivalents/lb (2.2 mg/kg) BW, clinical effectiveness data and MIC data, the following breakpoint is recommended by CLSI.

Zone Diameter (mm)	MIC (µg/mL)	Interpretation
≥ 22	≤ 0.25	(S) Susceptible

The susceptible only category is used for populations of organisms (usually one species) for which regression analysis (disk vs. MIC) cannot be performed. These breakpoints will permit detection of strains with decreased susceptibility as compared to the original population.

Standardized procedures[1] require the use of laboratory control organisms for both standardized diffusion techniques and standardized dilution techniques. The 30 µg ceftiofur sodium disk should give the following zone diameters and the ceftiofur sodium standard reference powder (or disk) should provide the following MIC values for the reference strain. Ceftiofur sodium disks or powder reference standard is appropriate for both ceftiofur salts.

Table 3. Acceptable quality control ranges for ceftiofur against Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute recommended American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) reference strains

Organism Name (ATCC Number)	Zone Diameter* (mm)	MIC Range (µg/mL)
Escherichia coli (25922)	26–31	0.25–1.0
Staphylococcus aureus (29213)	—	0.25–1.0
Staphylococcus aureus (25923)	27–31	—
Pseudomonas aeruginosa (27853)	14–18	16.0–64.0
Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae (27090)	34–42**	0.004–0.015***
Histophilus somni (700025)	36–46**	0.0005–0.004***

* All testing performed using a 30µg disk.
** Quality control ranges are applicable only to tests performed by disk diffusion test using a chocolate Mueller-Hinton agar, incubated in 5-7% CO_2 for 20-24 hours.
*** MIC quality control ranges are applicable only to tests performed by broth microdilution procedures using veterinary fastidious medium (VFM).

ANIMAL SAFETY

Cattle

Results from a five-day tolerance study in normal feeder calves indicated that formulated ceftiofur was well tolerated at 25 times (25 mg/lb/day) the highest recommended dose of 1.0 mg/lb/day for five consecutive days. Ceftiofur administered intramuscularly had no adverse systemic effects.

In a 15-day safety/toxicity study, five steer and five heifer calves per group were intramuscularly administered formulated ceftiofur at 0 (vehicle control), 1, 3, 5 and 10 times the highest recommended dose of 1.0 mg/lb/day to determine the safety factor. There were no adverse systemic effects indicating that the formulated ceftiofur has a wide margin of safety when injected intramuscularly into the feeder calves at 10 times (10 mg/lb/day) the recommended dose for three times (15 days) the recommended three to five days of therapy. The formulation was shown to be a slight muscle irritant based on results of histopathological evaluation of the injection sites at 1 and 3 times the highest recommended dose of 1.0 mg/lb/day. The histopathological evaluations were conducted at post-treatment days 1, 3, 7 and 14.

The injection of NAXCEL Sterile Powder at the recommended dose administered SC in the neck of cattle was well tolerated. However, a several square centimeter area of yellow-red discoloration resulting from a single SC injection persisted in many of the cattle beyond 4.5 days post-injection. Also, one of the animals developed an abscess at the injection site.

Swine

Results from a five-day tolerance study in normal feeder pigs indicated that formulated ceftiofur was well tolerated when administered at 57 mg/lb (more than 25 times the highest recommended daily dosage of 2.27 mg/lb of body weight) for five consecutive days. Ceftiofur administered intramuscularly to pigs produced no overt adverse signs of toxicity.

To determine the safety factor and to measure the muscle irritancy potential in swine, a safety/toxicity study was conducted. Five barrows and five gilts per group were intramuscularly administered formulated ceftiofur at 0, 2.27, 6.81 and 11.36 mg/lb of body weight for 15 days which is 0, 1, 3 and 5 times the highest recommended dose of 2.27 mg/lb of body weight/day and 5 times the recommended treatment length of 3 days. There were no adverse systemic effects indicating that formulated ceftiofur has a wide margin of safety when injected intramuscularly into feeder pigs at the highest recommended dose of 2.27 mg/lb/day for 3 days or at levels up to 5 times the highest recommended dose for 5 times the recommended length of treatment. The formulation was shown to be a slight muscle irritant based on results of histopathological evaluation of the injection sites at post-treatment days 1, 2, 3 and 4. By day 10 post injection the muscle reaction was subsiding and at day 15 post injection there was little evidence of muscle damage in any of the pigs in any of the treatment groups.

Sheep

In a 15-day safety/toxicity study in sheep, three wether and three ewe lambs per group were given formulated ceftiofur sodium by the intramuscular route 0 (sterile water vehicle), 1, 3 or 5 times the recommended dose of 1.0 mg/lb/day for 3 times the recommended maximum duration of 5 days of treatment. There were no adverse systemic effects indicating that formulated ceftiofur is well tolerated and has a wide margin of safety in sheep. Based on examination of injection sites from study days 9, 11, 13 and 15, a low incidence of visual changes and histopathologic findings of mild, reversible inflammation from all groups including the controls indicated that the formulation is a slight muscle irritant.

Goats

In a 15-day safety/toxicity study 5 lactating does, 5 dry does, and 5 wethers were given formulated ceftiofur by the intramuscular route with 11 mg/kg/day for 15 days. This constitutes 5 times the recommended dose for 3 times the recommended maximum duration of 5 days of treatment. There were no adverse systemic effects indicating that formulated ceftiofur is well tolerated and has a wide margin of safety in goats.

Horses

In a safety study, horses received a daily intramuscular injection of either 0 mg/lb/day (saline control), 1.0 mg/lb/day (50 mg/mL), 3.0 mg/lb/day (100 mg/mL), or 5.0 mg/lb/day (200 mg/mL) of an aqueous solution of ceftiofur sodium for 30 or 31 days. Ceftiofur sodium was well tolerated when administered intramuscularly to male and female horses at doses up to 5.0 mg/lb/day for 30 or 31 days. No clinical evidence of irritation was noted at any dose. The drug-related changes detected in this study were limited to a transient decrease in food consumption in horses receiving 3.0 or 5.0 mg/lb/day ceftiofur, and general mild skeletal muscle irritation at the injection sites which resolved by regeneration of muscle fibers.

In a tolerance study, horses received a single daily intravenous infusion of either 0 (saline), 10.0 or 25.0 mg/lb/day of an aqueous solution (50 mg/mL) of ceftiofur for 10 days. The results indicated that ceftiofur administered intravenously at a dose of 10.0 or 25.0 mg/lb/day apparently can change the bacterial flora of the large intestine thereby leading to inflammation of the large intestine with subsequent diarrhea and other clinical signs (loose feces, eating bedding straw, dehydration, rolling or colic and a dull, inactive demeanor). Decreased food consumption, a loss of body weight, hematologic changes related to acute inflammation and stress, and serum chemistry changes related to decreased food consumption and diarrhea were also associated with treatment at these doses. The adverse effects were most severe a few days after dosing was initiated and tended to become less severe toward the end of the 10-day dosing period.

Dogs

Ceftiofur sodium was well tolerated at the therapeutic dose and is safe for the treatment of urinary tract infections in dogs. In the acute safety study, ceftiofur was well tolerated by dogs at the recommended level (1.0 mg/lb) for 5-14 days. When administered subcutaneously for 42 consecutive days, one of four females developed thrombocytopenia (15 days) and anemia (36 days). Thrombocytopenia and anemia also occurred at the 3X and 5X dose levels. In the reversibility phase of the study (5X dose), the thrombocytopenia reversed within 8 days, and of the two anemic animals the male recovered within 6 weeks and the female was sacrificed due to the severity of the anemia.

In the 15-day tolerance study in dogs, high subcutaneous doses (25 and 125 times the recommended therapeutic dose) produced a progressive and dose-related thrombocytopenia, with some dogs also exhibiting anemia and bone marrow changes. The hematopoietic changes noted in dogs treated with ceftiofur were similar to those associated with long-term cephalosporin administration in dogs and also man. The hematopoietic effects are not expected to occur as a result of recommended therapy.

Day-Old Chicks

In an acute toxicity study of ceftiofur in day-old chicks, a total of 60 male and 60 female chicks were each given single subcutaneous injections of 10, 100 or 1,000 mg/kg of body weight. Treatment on day 1 was followed by 6 days of observation; body weight was determined on days 1, 4 and 7; and selected hematology parameters were evaluated on day 4. No meaningful differences were noted among the treated and control groups of chicks for the parameters evaluated. Histopathologic evaluation of all deaths and chicks surviving to termination did not reveal a target organ or tissue of potential toxicity of ceftiofur when administered at up to 20 times (100 mg/kg) the intended highest use dosage.

Day-Old Turkey Poults

In an acute toxicity study of ceftiofur in day-old turkey poults, a total of 30 male and 30 female poults were each administered single subcutaneous injections of 100, 400 or 800 mg/kg body weight. Injection on day 1 was followed by 6 days of observation; body weight on days 1, 4, and 7; and selected hematology parameters on day 4. No meaningful differences were noted between the treated groups at 100 or 400 mg ceftiofur/kg and a negative control group for the parameters evaluated. Histopathologic evaluation of all deaths and poults surviving to termination did not reveal a target organ or tissue of potential toxicity of ceftiofur when administered at up to 50 times (400 mg/kg) the highest use dosage. A dose of 800 mg/kg (100 times the intended highest use dosage) was toxic, resulting in clinical signs and deaths accompanied by gross and microscopic morphologic tissue alterations.

TISSUE RESIDUE DEPLETION

Cattle

A radiolabeled residue metabolism study established tolerances for ceftiofur residues in cattle kidney, liver and muscle. These tolerances of ceftiofur residues are 0.4 ppm in kidney, 2.0 ppm in liver, 1.0 ppm in muscle, and 0.1 ppm in milk.

A pivotal tissue residue decline study was conducted in cattle. In this study, cattle received an intramuscular injection of 1.0 mg of ceftiofur per lb body weight (2.2 mg of ceftiofur per kg body weight) for five consecutive days. Ceftiofur residues in tissues were less than the tolerances for ceftiofur residues in tissues such as kidney, liver and muscle by 4 days after dosing. These data collectively support a 4-day pre-slaughter withdrawal period in cattle when used according to label directions.

Swine

Radiolabeled residue metabolism studies established tolerances for ceftiofur residues in swine kidney, liver, and muscle. These tolerances of ceftiofur residues are 0.25 ppm in kidney, 3.0 ppm in liver and 2.0 ppm in muscle.

A pivotal tissue residue decline study was conducted in swine. In this study, pigs received 2.27 mg of ceftiofur per lb body weight (5 mg of ceftiofur per kg body weight) per day for three consecutive days. Ceftiofur residues in tissues were less than the tolerances for ceftiofur residues in tissues such as kidney, liver and muscle by 4 days after dosing. These data collectively support a 4-day pre-slaughter withdrawal period in swine when used according to label directions.

STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store **unreconstituted** product at controlled room temperature 20° to 25° C (68° to 77° F).

Store **reconstituted** product either in a refrigerator 2° to 8° C (36° to 46° F) for up to 7 days or at controlled room temperature 20° to 25° C (68° to 77° F) for up to 12 hours.

Protect from light. Color of the cake may vary from off-white to a tan color. Color does not affect potency.

ONE-TIME SALVAGE PROCEDURE FOR RECONSTITUTED PRODUCT

At the end of the 7-day refrigeration or 12-hour room temperature storage period following reconstitution, any remaining reconstituted product may be frozen for up to 8 weeks without loss in potency or other chemical properties. This is a one-time only salvage procedure for the remaining product. To use this salvaged product at any time during the 8-week storage period, hold the vial under warm running water, gently swirling the container to accelerate thawing, or allow the frozen material to thaw at room temperature. Rapid freezing or thawing may result in vial breakage. Any product not used immediately upon thawing should be discarded.

HOW SUPPLIED

NAXCEL Sterile Powder is available in the following package sizes:

1 gram vial
4 gram vial

[1] Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI). Performance Standards for Antimicrobial Disk and Dilution Susceptibility Tests for Bacteria Isolated from Animals; Approved Standard – Second Edition. NCCLS document M31-A2. CLSI, 940 West Valley Road, Suite 1400, Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087-1898, 2002.

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