



## Patient information

Please read this information carefully before taking OMNICEF capsules. Also, read the information provided to you each time you receive a new prescription in case anything has changed. This information should not take the place of talking with your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about your OMNICEF prescription.

### What is OMNICEF?

OMNICEF is an antibiotic used to treat infections caused by certain bacteria, including respiratory tract infections such as bronchitis, sinus infections, pharyngitis/tonsillitis, and Community Acquired Pneumonia. OMNICEF may also be used to treat some minor skin infections.

Antibiotics don't work for viral infections, such as a cold or flu. Only your doctor can decide whether you have an infection and the best treatment for it.

### How does OMNICEF work?

OMNICEF works by stopping the formation of the bacteria's cell walls. This interrupts the bacteria's ability to reproduce.

### Why has my doctor prescribed OMNICEF?

Your doctor prescribed OMNICEF because, through laboratory tests and/or clinical observations, your doctor suspects an infection caused by bacteria against which OMNICEF is usually effective. The condition for which he has prescribed OMNICEF may include a sinus infection, bronchitis, tonsillitis or a minor skin infection.

### Is there anyone who should not use OMNICEF?

People who have experienced an allergic reaction to OMNICEF or other cephalosporin antibiotics should not use OMNICEF. If you have ever had a reaction to any of these drugs, or have any concerns about cross-allergies with other antibiotics, talk to your doctor before taking OMNICEF.

### Is there anything I should avoid when taking OMNICEF?

Antacids containing magnesium or aluminum (such as Maalox or Mylanta) and iron supplements (including multi-vitamins that contain iron) interfere with the absorption of OMNICEF if they are taken within 2 hours of taking OMNICEF. Therefore, OMNICEF should be taken at least 2 hours before or 2 hours after taking antacids or iron supplements. It is not known whether eating foods fortified with iron, such as breakfast cereals, will reduce the absorption of OMNICEF.

### How should I take OMNICEF?

OMNICEF should be taken *exactly as prescribed by your doctor*. It's important to try to take it at the same time(s) every day. OMNICEF capsules can be taken with or without food.

### What should I do if I miss a dose?

You should try to take all of your medication exactly as directed. Skipping doses or not completing the full course of therapy may decrease the effectiveness of your current treatment and increase the likelihood that bacteria will develop resistance and may not be treatable by OMNICEF or other antibacterial drugs in the future.

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you realize you missed it. However, if it is time for the next dose, do not double up on doses. Just resume your normal schedule.

### Are there any possible side effects?

In clinical studies, the most common side effects were diarrhea, vaginal infections or inflammation, nausea, headache, and abdominal pain. Tell your doctor if you have any kidney problems or any previous hypersensitivity reaction to penicillin.

If an allergic reaction to OMNICEF occurs, stop taking it and contact your doctor.

### Can I take OMNICEF if I am pregnant?

If you are pregnant, or suspect you may be pregnant, tell your doctor. Only you and your doctor can decide if treatment with OMNICEF is clearly necessary. OMNICEF has not been studied in pregnant women.

### Can I take OMNICEF if I am a nursing mother?

OMNICEF has not been detected in breast milk of nursing mothers. However, if you are nursing a baby, talk to your doctor.

### Is there anything else I should know about OMNICEF treatment?

Nearly all medications that kill harmful bacteria also kill some of the beneficial bacteria that lives naturally in the human digestive tract. Sometimes this can cause side effects, such as diarrhea, or a condition called colitis. If you have been diagnosed with colitis, or if you experience diarrhea while taking this, or any other antibiotic, stop taking OMNICEF and tell your doctor.

### Where can I get more information?

Your pharmacist has additional information about OMNICEF written for healthcare professionals that you may read. Please see this full prescribing information, which provides further details about risks associated with OMNICEF.