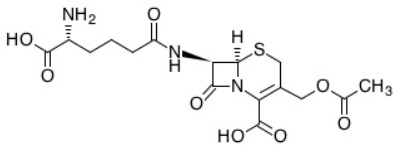


# Cephalosporins

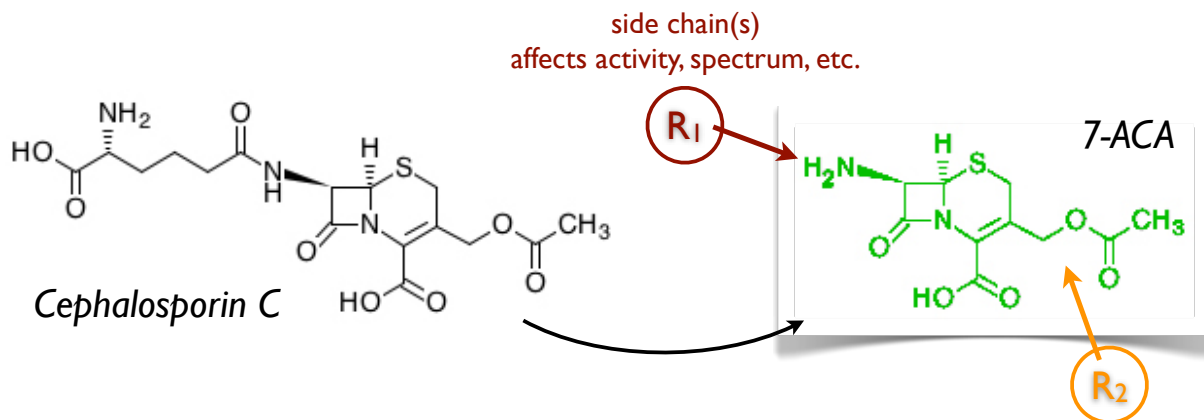


*Cephalosporin C*



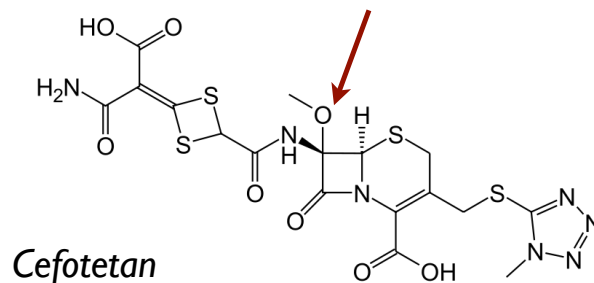
- First isolated by Brotzu from *Cephalosporium acremonium* (a mold) from a sewage outfall (and popular swimming spot) in Sardinia. He noticed the *C. acremonium* cultures inhibited the growth of *Salmonella enterica* (typhi), a Gram- bug that produces a penicillinase
- M.O.A. same as penicillins, to inhibit synthesis and maintenance of bacterial peptidoglycan

## Semi-synthetic cephalosporins



- Cephalosporin C had poor bioavailability, rapidly cleared
- All cephalosporins in use are of the semi-synthetic variety, no equivalents to Pen G and V in use.
- Cleave off natural sidechain to yield 7-aminocephalosporanic acid (7-ACA) core, which then could be synthetically substituted with other sidechains (R1, R2).
  - Alter the spectrum, stability, bioavailability, resistance to beta-lactamases
  - More modifications possible than w/ penicillins

## Cephamycin general features



- Cephamycin beta-lactams + cephalosporins = cephems (but we will use “cephalosporin” to refer to both).
- Originally isolated from *Streptomyces*; now semi-synthetic derivatives
- Cephamycins have an O-methylated beta-lactam ring (→)
- Good anaerobic activity

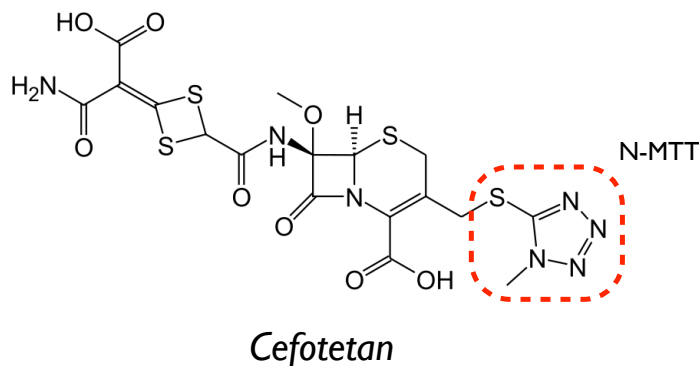
## Cephalosporins general features

- Generally broader spectrum coverage than penicillins
  - Whereas original penicillins had primarily Gram<sup>+</sup> coverage, most cephalosporins also cover some Gram<sup>-</sup>
  - Better resistance to beta-lactamases, but susceptible to AmpC, ESBL (if bug makes ESBL or AmpC, typically go to carbapenems instead).
- Cleared renally with ~5-30% metabolic breakdown, much active drug excreted in urine
- Low toxicity:
  - Lower allergenicity than penicillins though still some due to beta-lactam ring opening (10% cross-reactivity with penicillins)

# Cephalosporins general features

## ● Other adverse drug reactions:

- Some such as cefotetan has an **N-methylthiotetrazole (N-MTT)** moiety that is released as a metabolic byproduct. This can cause hypoprothrombinemia, which manifests as **bleeding** due to combination of effects: 1) altered gut flora changes vitamin K production, 2) direct interaction of N-MTT with prothrombin, 3) platelet dysfunction. First noted with moxalactam (2-3% fatalities; off market).
- N-MTT also can inhibit aldehyde dehydrogenase, giving rise to a **disulfam-like reaction** following alcohol consumption. Intense hang-over feeling, hyper-sensitivity to alcohol.



# Cephalosporins general features

- Cephalosporin “generations”: generally get broader, more Gm- coverage with later generations
- Generation 1: Generally had better Gram+ than Gram- activity; susceptible to many Gram- beta-lactamases
  - Examples: Cephalexin, Cefazolin
- Generation 2: Better resilience to Gram- beta-lactamases, Gram- coverage
  - Examples: Cefuroxime
- Generation 3: More potent, better Gram- beta-lactamase stability, better penetration; pick up some anti-*Pseudomonas* activity, give up some Gram+ coverage
  - Examples: Cefpodoxime, Cefdinir, Cefixime, Cefotaxime, Ceftriaxone, Ceftazidime,
- Generation 4: Very broad spectrum (Gm- and Gm+)
  - Example: Cefepime
- Generation 5: MRSA and PRSP coverage
  - Example: Ceftaroline

# Cephalosporins general features

● Some penetrate to the CNS:

- Cefuroxime
- Cefotaxime
- Ceftazidime
- Ceftriaxone

underlined are on UW formulary

## Oral cephalosporins

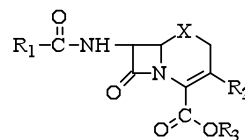
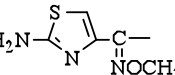
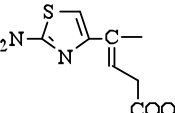
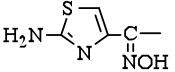
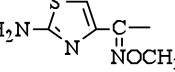
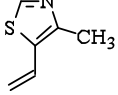


Table - Oral Cephalosporins

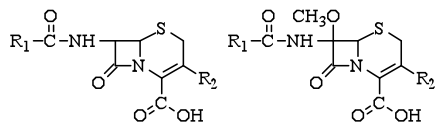
| generation | name              | brand name | structure      |                                        |                |     | dose |
|------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|----------------------------------------|----------------|-----|------|
|            |                   |            | R <sub>1</sub> | R <sub>2</sub>                         | R <sub>3</sub> | X   |      |
| 1          | cephalexin        | generic    |                | -CH <sub>3</sub>                       | -H             | -S- | QID  |
| 1          | cephradine        | generic    |                | -CH <sub>3</sub>                       | -H             | -S- | BID  |
| 1          | cefadroxil        | generic    |                | -CH <sub>3</sub>                       | -H             | -S- | BID  |
| 2          | cefaclor          | generic    |                | -Cl                                    | -H             | -S- | TID  |
| 2          | cefuroxime axetil | generic    |                | -CH <sub>2</sub> OC(=O)NH <sub>2</sub> |                | -S- | BID  |
| 2          | cefprozil         | generic    |                | -CH=CHCH <sub>3</sub>                  | -H             | -S- | BID  |

## Oral cephalosporins (cont.)

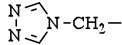
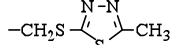
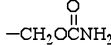
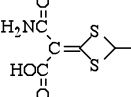
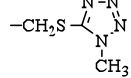
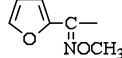
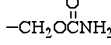
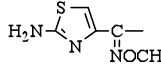
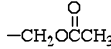
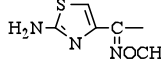
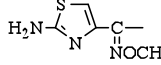
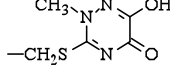
|   |                         |         |                                                                                   |                                                                                    |                                                                                  |                 |     |
|---|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| 3 | cefpodoxime<br>proxetil | generic |  | $-\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_3$                                                         | $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}\text{COCH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ | $-\text{CH}_2-$ | BID |
| 3 | ceftibutin              | Cedax®  |  |                                                                                    | $-\text{H}$                                                                      | $-\text{S}-$    | qd  |
| 3 | cefdinir                | generic |  | $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$                                                           | $-\text{H}$                                                                      | $-\text{S}-$    | BID |
| 3 | cefditoren<br>pivoxil   | generic |  |  | $-\text{CH}_2\text{OCOC}(\text{CH}_3)_3$                                         | $-\text{S}-$    | BID |
| 3 | cefixime                | Suprax® | ----                                                                              | ----                                                                               | ----                                                                             | ----            | qd  |

Courtesy Prof. Gary Elmer

## Parenteral cephalosporins/cephamycins

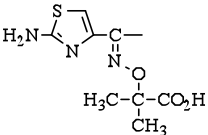
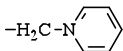
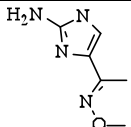


| Table - Parenteral Cephalosporins and Cephameycins | Cephalosporin | *Cephameycin |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|

| generation | name        | brand name | structure                                                                           |                                                                                       | dose |
|------------|-------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
|            |             |            | R <sub>1</sub>                                                                      | R <sub>2</sub>                                                                        |      |
| 1          | cefazolin   | generic    |  |  | TID  |
| 2          | cefoxitin*  | generic    |  |  | QID  |
| 2          | cefotetan*  | generic    |  |  | BID  |
| 2          | cefuroxime  | generic    |  |  | TID  |
| 3          | cefotaxime  | generic    |  |  | TID  |
| 3          | ceftizoxime | Cefizox®   |  | -H                                                                                    | TID  |
| 3          | ceftriaxone | generic    |  |  | qd   |

Courtesy Prof. Gary Elmer

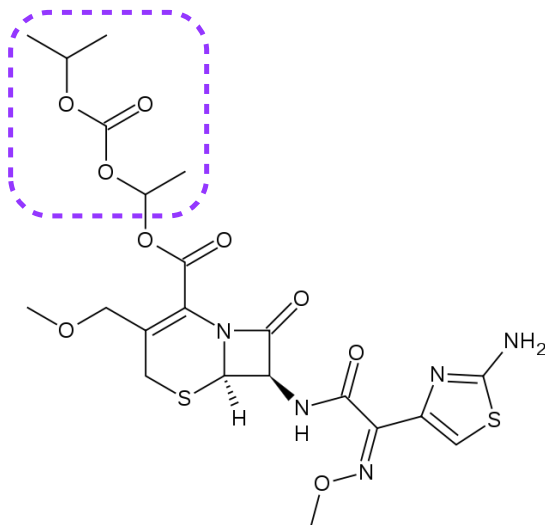
## Parenteral cephalosporins/cephamycins (cont.)

|   |             |         |                                                                                   |                                                                                     |     |
|---|-------------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 3 | ceftazidime | generic |  |  | TID |
| 4 | cefepime    | generic |  |  | BID |

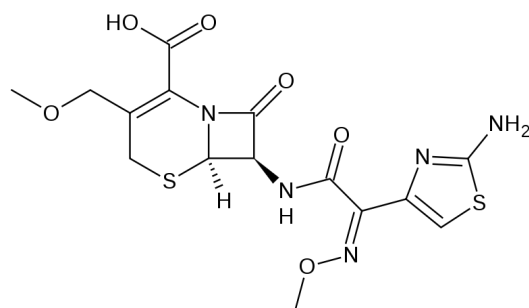
Courtesy Prof. Gary Elmer

## Some oral cephalosporins are prodrugs

- **Examples:** Cefpodoxime, Cefuroxime, Cefprozime, Cefditoren,, Cefetamet, Cefditoren
- Metabolized to active drug by intestinal mucosal tissue
- Sometimes aids in better absorption; e.g. crossing membranes
- Sometimes aids in better solubility



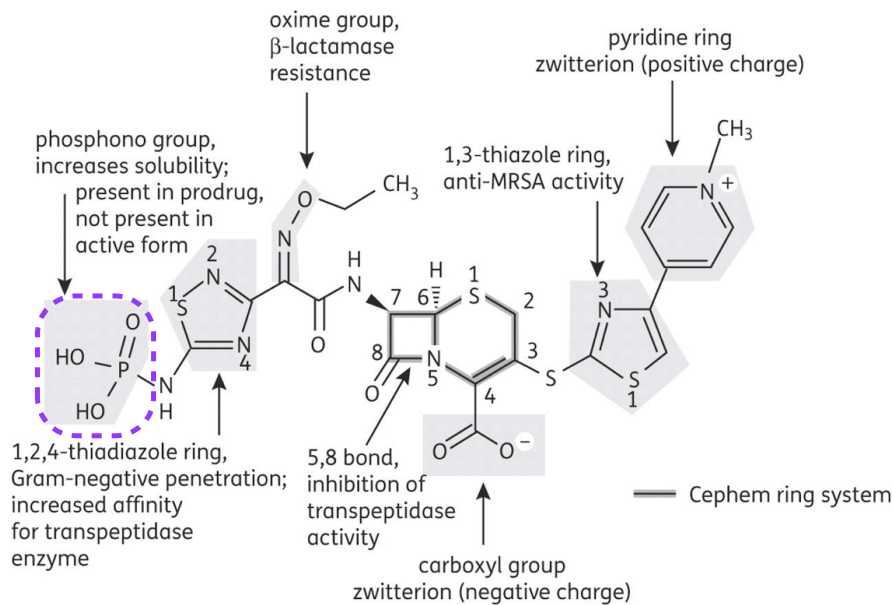
*cefpodoxime proxetil*



*cefpodoxime*

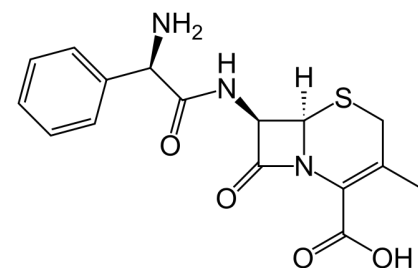
# Some parenteral cephalosporins are prodrugs

## ● Anatomy of a cephalosporin: ceftaroline (a gen-5 cep)



Laudano JB, J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 2011;66:iii11-iii18

## Cephalexin (Gen1, PO)



### ● Keflex ® (Eli Lilly), and generics

### ● Up to 90% excreted unmodified in urine.

### ● Indications:

- **Skin infections:** *S. aureus* (MSSA even w/ penicillinase, not MRSA), *S. pyogenes*
- **Respiratory infections:** *S. pneumoniae* (not PRSP), *S. pyogenes*
- **Otitis media:** *S. pneumoniae*, *H. influenzae*, *M. catarrhalis*
  - *H. influenzae* and *M. catarrhalis* may have resistance due to beta-lactamases
- **Urogenital:** *E. coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Proteus mirabilis*
- **Bone:** *S. aureus*, *P. mirabilis*

# Cephalexin (Gen1, PO)

Indicated spectrum for cephalexin (Gen I, oral):

## Aerobic gram-positive microorganisms:

*Staphylococcus aureus* (including penicillinase-producing strains)

*Streptococcus pneumoniae* (only penicillin-sensitive strains)

*Streptococcus pyogenes*

## Resistant Gm+ bacteria, not covered:

MRSA

PRSP

Most strains of enterococci (*E. faecalis*) are resistant to cephalosporins, including Cephalexin.

*Enterobacter* spp.

*Morganella morganii*

*Proteus vulgaris*

*Pseudomonas* spp.

*Acinetobacter calcoaceticus*

## Aerobic gram-negative microorganisms:

*Escherichia coli*

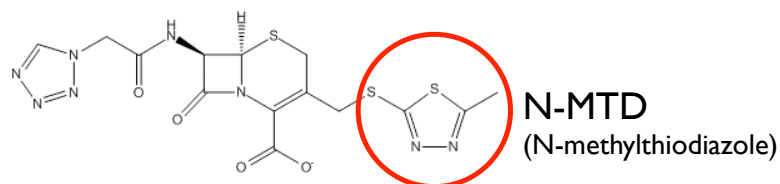
*Haemophilus influenzae*

*Klebsiella pneumoniae*

*Moraxella catarrhalis*

*Proteus mirabilis*

# Cefazolin (Gen1, Parenteral IV/IM)



- Ancef ® (GSKB), and generics
- Up to 80% excreted unmodified in urine.
- For Gm+ *Staphylococci* including *Staph. aureus* (not MRSA), *Streptococci* including *Strep. pyogenes*, *Strep. pneumoniae* (not PRSP)
  - Respiratory tract infections (*Staph.*, *Strep.*)
  - Uncomplicated skin infections
  - Bone and joint
- Some Gram- coverage: *E. coli*, *H. influenzae* (some resistance), *P. mirabilis*,
  - Urogenital
- Like N-MTT, N-MTD sidechain, potential for bleeding and disulfiram-like alcohol side effects
  - Co-administration with parenteral vitamin K may counter bleeding



# Cefazolin (Gen1, Parenteral IV/IM)

Indicated spectrum for cefazolin (Gen1, parenteral):

## Aerobic gram-positive microorganisms:

*Staphylococcus aureus* (including penicillinase-producing strains)  
*Staph. epidermidis*  
*Strep. pneumoniae* (only penicillin-sensitive strains)  
*Strep. pyogenes*  
*Strep. agalactiae*

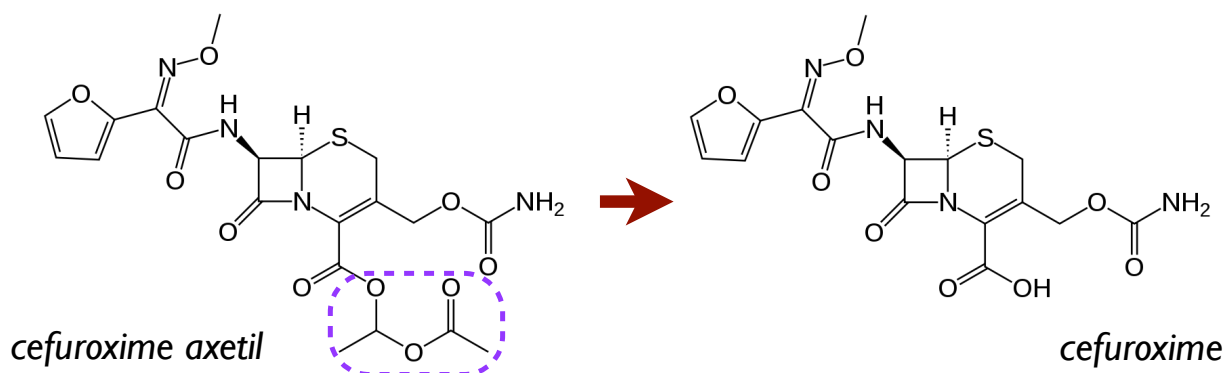
## Resistant Gm+ bacteria, not covered:

MRSA  
PRSP  
*Enterococci* (*E. faecalis*)

## Aerobic gram-negative microorganisms:

*Escherichia coli*  
*Proteus mirabilis*

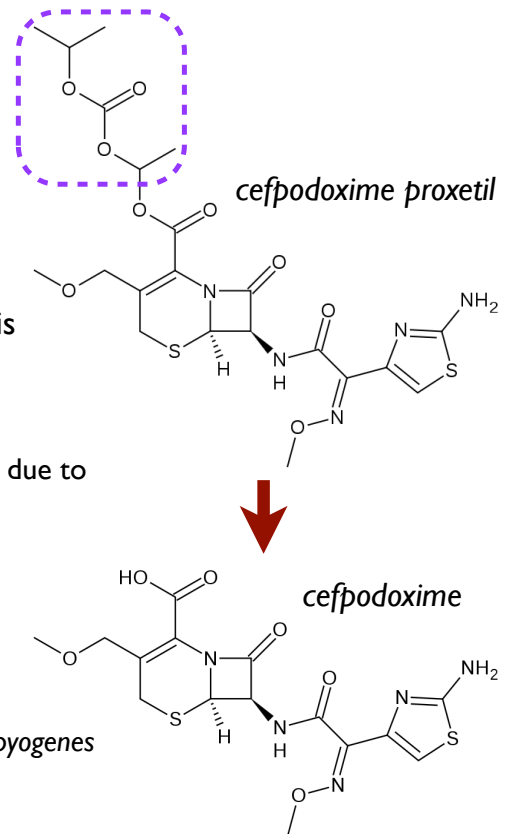
# Cefuroxime axetil (Gen2, PO)



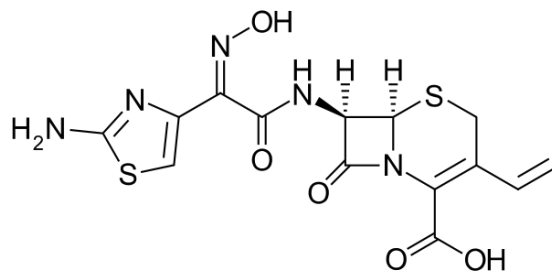
- Ceftin® (GSKB) and generics
- Prodrug: cefuroxime axetil converted to cefuroxime (also IV, not as prodrug)
- Indications:
  - Pharyngitis, Tonsillitis, Otitis media, sinusitis, bronchitis (*H. flu*, *S. pneumo*, *M. cat*)
  - Skin infections (*S. pyogenes*, MSSA)
  - UTI (*E. coli*, *Klebsiella*)
  - *N. gonorrhoeae* including penicillinase-producing
  - Early Lyme disease *Borrelia Burgdorferi* (amoxicillin, doxycycline also)
- Penetrates to CNS: meningitis (*N. meningitidis*, *H. influenzae*, *S. pneumoniae*)

## Cefpodoxime proxetil (Gen3, PO)

- Vantin ® (Pharmacia), and generics
- Prodrug
- Good Gram- and Gram+ coverage
  - not *Pseudomonas*, *Enterococci*, *B. fragilis*
- Indications: big for otitis media, pharyngitis, sinusitis
  - Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP):
    - *S. pneumoniae*, *H. influenzae*, *M. catarrhalis*
    - *H. influenzae* and *M. catarrhalis* may have resistance due to beta-lactamases
  - *N. gonorrhoeae*: single 200mg dose
  - UTI
  - Otitis media:
    - *S. pneumoniae*, *H. influenzae*, *M. catarrhalis*
  - Uncomplicated skin infections: *S. aureus* (not MRSA), *S. pyogenes*



## Cefdinir (Gen3, PO)



- Omnicef ® (Abbot) and generics
- Similar coverage to cefpodoxime, but tastes better (important for children)
- Best selling cephalosporin, often prescribed for AOM (acute otitis media) if infection not responding to amoxicillin

## Relative tastiness of cephalosporins

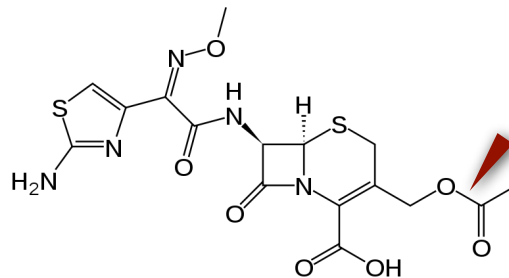
**TABLE 2**  
**Taste Ratings for Oral Cephalosporin Suspensions\***

| Antibiotic                     | Rating |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Loracarbef                     | ++++   |
| Cefdinir                       | ++++   |
| Cefixime                       | +++    |
| Cephalexin                     | +++    |
| Cefaclor                       | +++    |
| Amoxicillin*                   | +++    |
| Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole* | ++     |
| Cefprozil                      | ++     |
| Amoxicillin/clavulanate*       | ++     |
| Cefpodoxime                    | +      |
| Cefuroxime axetil              | +      |

\* Data modified from references 9-11  
 \* Comparative commonly prescribed agent in pediatric patients  
 +++, best overall taste; +++ above average;  
 ++, below average; + poorly palatable

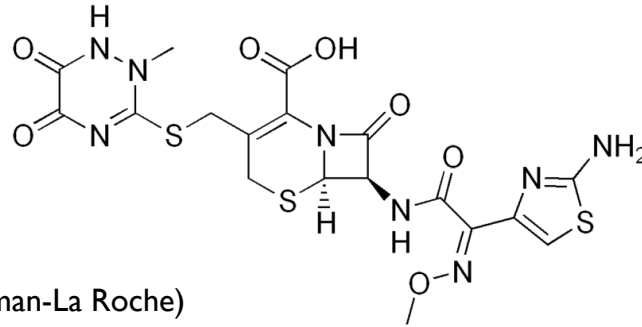
National Foundation for Infectious Diseases  
[http://www.nfid.org/pdf/pediatric\\_archive/cephalosporinsupdate.pdf](http://www.nfid.org/pdf/pediatric_archive/cephalosporinsupdate.pdf)

## Cefotaxime (Gen3, Parenteral IV/IM)



- Claforan® (Sanofi Aventis)
- Cefotaxime becomes deacetylated, resulting desacetylcefotaxime also active
- Broad spectrum; Gram-, Gram+
  - Activity against PRSP, but used in combination with other antimicrobials
  - Notable Gm+ exceptions: *Enterococci*
  - Notable Gm- exceptions: *Pseudomonas*
- Lower respiratory tract infections, bone and joints, skin, urogenital infection, septicemia
- Intra-abdominal including use as pre-surgery prophylaxis
- Penetrates to CNS: meningitis

# Ceftriaxone (Gen3, Parenteral IV/IM)



- Rocephin ® (Hoffman-La Roche)
- Broad spectrum; Gram-, Gram+
  - Can be used for Penicillin-resistant *Strep. Pneumoniae* (PRSP)
  - Highly active against *N. gonorrhoeae*: 250mg single IM dose
  - Some activity against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, but not the most potent
- Very long half-life ~6-8h (vs e.g. 1h for cefotaxime); less frequent dosing
- Penetrates the CNS
- Often used in combination w/ aminoglycoside or macrolide
  - E.g. w/ azithromycin for *Chlamydia trachomatis*
- Do not co-administer or dilute with calcium-containing compounds/solutions
  - Ceftriaxone precipitates with calcium

# Ceftriaxone (Gen3, Parenteral IV/IM)

## Aerobic gram-negative microorganisms:

*Acinetobacter calcoaceticus*  
*Enterobacter aerogenes*  
*Enterobacter cloacae*  
*Escherichia coli*  
*Haemophilus influenzae* (including ampicillin-resistant and beta-lactamase producing strains)  
*Haemophilus parainfluenzae*  
*Klebsiella oxytoca*  
*Klebsiella pneumoniae*  
*Moraxella catarrhalis* (including beta-lactamase producing strains)  
*Morganella morganii*  
*Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (including penicillinase- and nonpenicillinase-producing strains)  
*Neisseria meningitidis*  
*Proteus mirabilis*  
*Proteus vulgaris*  
*Serratia marcescens*  
*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

## Aerobic gram-positive microorganisms:

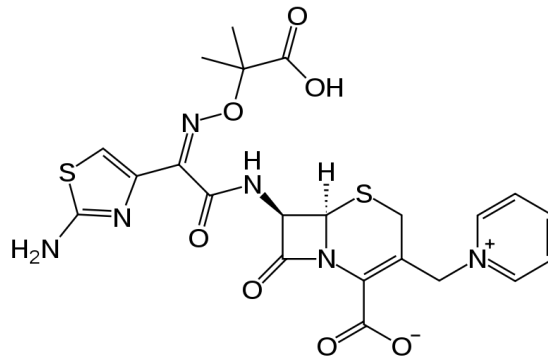
*Staphylococcus aureus* (including penicillinase-producing strains, not MRSA)  
*Staphylococcus epidermidis*  
*Streptococcus pneumoniae* (active for PRSP)  
*Streptococcus pyogenes*  
*Viridans group streptococci*

NOTE: MRSA resistant to most cephalosporins, including ceftriaxone. Most strains of Group D streptococci and enterococci, eg, *Enterococcus faecalis*, are resistant.

## Anaerobic microorganisms:

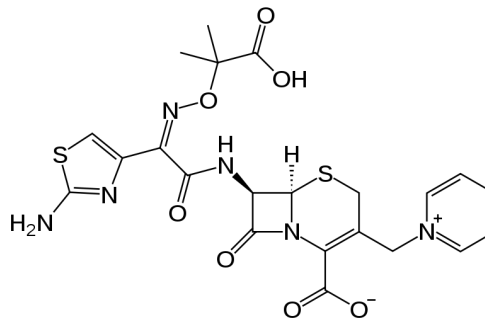
*Bacteroides fragilis*  
*Clostridium* species (NOTE: Most strains of *Clostridium difficile* are resistant)  
*Peptostreptococcus* species

## Ceftazidime (Gen3, Parenteral IV/IM)



- Fortum ® (GSK)
- Broad spectrum; Gram-, some Gram+
  - Activity against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, ~85-90% sensitive (only ~68% for CF patients)
  - Poorer against Gm+, not generally used
- CNS penetration in meningitis

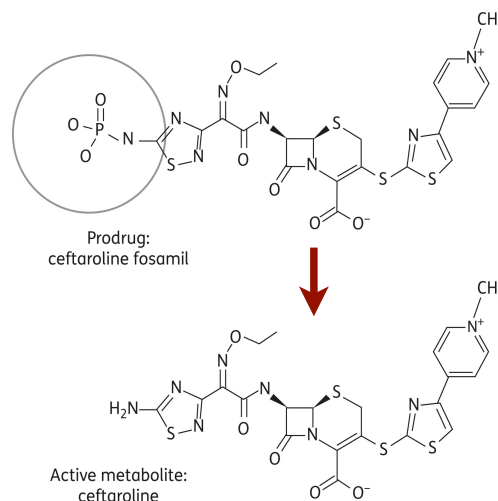
## Cefepime (Gen4, Parenteral IV/IM)



- Maxipime ® (Elan)
- Even more resistant to beta-lactamases binds tightly to PBPs
- Better penetration of Gram- outer membranes
- Broad spectrum: Gram- and Gram+
  - Activity against PRSP
  - *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* coverage (90% sensitive for non-CF patients, only 50% for CF)
  - Enterobacteriaceae
  - Not anaerobes
- Empiric therapy: used to suppress infection, then switch to another cephalosporin
  - Does not induce the expression of chromosomal beta-lactamases:
- FDA precaution for neurotoxicity (encephalopathy, myoclonus, seizures)

# Ceftaroline fosamil (Gen5, Parenteral IV/IM)

- Teflaro® (Cerexa, Forest Labs); FDA approved fall, 2010.
- Ceftaroline fosamil prodrug becomes dephosphonated in the blood to ceftaroline
- Similar spectrum to ceftriaxone, but gain increased Gram+ **coverage including MRSA and PRSP** due to increased affinity for MRSA's PBP2a and pen. resistant *S. pneumoniae*'s PBP2x, which confers resistance to most beta-lactams.
  - **MRSA and VRSA**
  - **PRSP**
  - *H. influenzae*
  - *M. catarrhalis*
  - *S. pyogenes*
  - *S. viridans* group
  - *E. faecalis*
  - *K. pneumoniae*
  - *Shigella*
  - **NOT for *P. aeruginosa*, beta-lactamase (ESBL, AmpC) producing Enterobacteriaceae, Bacteriodes, *C. difficile***
- Indicated uses
  - Skin infection
  - Community associated pneumonia (CAP)



# Ceftaroline fosamil (Gen5, Parenteral IV/IM)

**Table 1.** In vitro activity of ceftaroline against common Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria<sup>25</sup>

| Organism (number of isolates)                       | MIC (mg/L)   |        |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|
|                                                     | range        | 50%    | 90%    |
| <b>Gram-positive</b>                                |              |        |        |
| <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>                        |              |        |        |
| MSSA (102)                                          | 0.03–0.5     | 0.25   | 0.25   |
| MRSA (105)                                          | 0.5–2        | 0.5    | 1      |
| vancomycin reduced susceptibility (47)              | 0.25–2       | 1      | 2      |
| linezolid non-susceptible (13)                      | 0.5–2        | 1      | 2      |
| <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> (102)                 | ≤0.008–0.015 | ≤0.008 | ≤0.008 |
| <i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i> (104)               | ≤0.008–0.03  | 0.015  | 0.03   |
| <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>                        |              |        |        |
| vancomycin susceptible (102)                        | 0.25–16      | 2      | 4      |
| vancomycin resistant (108)                          | 0.5–16       | 4      | 8      |
| <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>                     |              |        |        |
| penicillin susceptible (MIC ≤ 0.06 mg/L) (102)      | ≤0.008–0.06  | ≤0.008 | 0.03   |
| penicillin intermediate (MIC 0.12–1 mg/L) (102)     | ≤0.008–0.12  | 0.03   | 0.06   |
| penicillin resistant (MIC ≥ 2 mg/L) (100)           | 0.03–0.5     | 0.12   | 0.25   |
| penicillin high-level resistant (MIC ≥ 8 mg/L) (40) | 0.06–0.5     | 0.25   | 0.5    |
| levofloxacin non-susceptible (53)                   | ≤0.008–0.5   | 0.015  | 0.12   |
| multidrug resistant (≥2 classes) (127)              | ≤0.008–0.5   | 0.12   | 0.25   |
| <b>Gram-negative</b>                                |              |        |        |
| <i>Escherichia coli</i>                             |              |        |        |
| ceftazidime susceptible (102)                       | 0.015–8      | 0.12   | 0.25   |
| <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>                        |              |        |        |
| ceftazidime susceptible (102)                       | 0.015–1      | 0.06   | 0.5    |
| <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>                       |              |        |        |
| β-lactamase negative (110)                          | ≤0.008–0.25  | ≤0.008 | 0.015  |
| β-lactamase positive (101)                          | ≤0.008–0.12  | ≤0.008 | 0.03   |
| <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> (101)                 | 4 to >16     | >16    | >16    |
| <i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> (101)                | 2 to >16     | >16    | >16    |

# Ceftaroline fosamil (Gen5, Parenteral IV/IM)

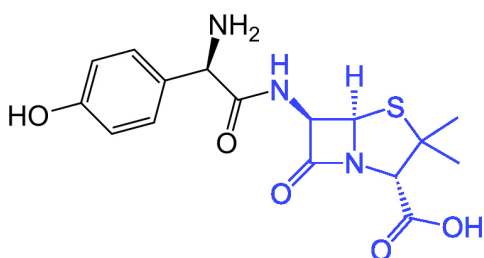
**Table 2.** Activity of ceftaroline and comparator agents against Gram-positive clinical isolates of skin pathogens from US and European medical centres in 2008<sup>26</sup>

| Organism                                                       | Antimicrobial agent | MIC (mg/L)   |        |       | Susceptible (%) |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------|-------|-----------------|
|                                                                |                     | range        | 50%    | 90%   |                 |
| <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i><br>methicillin susceptible (1554) | ceftaroline         | ≤0.008–1     | 0.25   | 0.25  | —               |
|                                                                | ceftriaxone         | 1–32         | 4      | 4     | 99.7            |
|                                                                | vancomycin          | 0.25–2       | 1      | 1     | 100             |
|                                                                | linezolid           | 0.25–2       | 2      | 2     | 100             |
|                                                                | ceftaroline         | 0.25–2       | 1      | 1     | —               |
|                                                                | ceftriaxone         | 1 to >32     | 32     | >32   | 0               |
|                                                                | vancomycin          | 0.25–2       | 1      | 1     | 100             |
|                                                                | linezolid           | 0.25–2       | 2      | 2     | 100             |
| Coagulase-negative staphylococci<br>all isolates (641)         | ceftaroline         | ≤0.008–4     | 0.25   | 1     | —               |
|                                                                | ceftriaxone         | ≤0.25 to >32 | 16     | >32   | 25.3            |
|                                                                | vancomycin          | ≤0.12–4      | 2      | 2     | 100             |
|                                                                | linezolid           | 0.12 to >8   | 1      | 1     | 99.2            |
| <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i><br>all isolates (613)             | ceftaroline         | 0.12 to >16  | 2      | 8     | —               |
|                                                                | ceftriaxone         | 1 to >32     | >32    | >32   | —               |
|                                                                | vancomycin          | 0.5 to >16   | 1      | 2     | 95.6            |
|                                                                | linezolid           | 0.25–2       | 1      | 2     | 100             |
| β-Haemolytic streptococci<br>all isolates (596)                | ceftaroline         | ≤0.008–0.06  | ≤0.008 | 0.015 | —               |
|                                                                | ceftriaxone         | ≤0.25        | ≤0.25  | ≤0.25 | 100             |
|                                                                | vancomycin          | 0.25–1       | 0.5    | 0.5   | 100             |
|                                                                | linezolid           | 0.5–2        | 1      | 1     | 100             |
| Viridans group streptococci<br>all isolates (190)              | ceftaroline         | ≤0.008–1     | 0.03   | 0.06  | —               |
|                                                                | ceftriaxone         | ≤0.25–16     | ≤0.25  | 0.5   | 93.7            |
|                                                                | vancomycin          | 0.25–1       | 0.5    | 0.5   | 100             |
|                                                                | linezolid           | 0.25–2       | 1      | 1     | 100             |
|                                                                | ceftaroline         | ≤0.008–1     | 0.03   | 0.5   | —               |
| penicillin non-susceptible (42)                                | ceftriaxone         | ≤0.25–16     | ≤0.25  | 8     | 71.4            |
|                                                                | vancomycin          | 0.25–0.5     | 0.5    | 0.5   | 100             |
|                                                                | linezolid           | 0.5–1        | 0.5    | 1     | 100             |

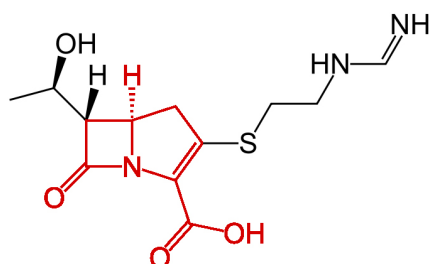
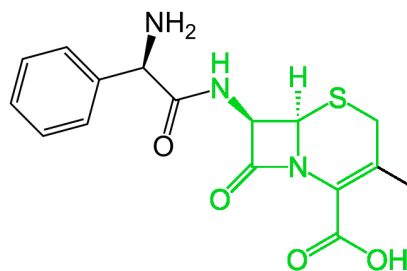
D. Biek et al., *J. Antimicrob. Chem.* (2010) **65** supplement 4: iv9-16

## Beta-lactam antibiotics

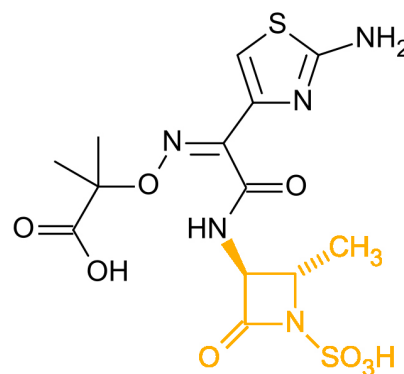
### Amoxicillin (penicillin)



### Cephalexin (cephalosporin)

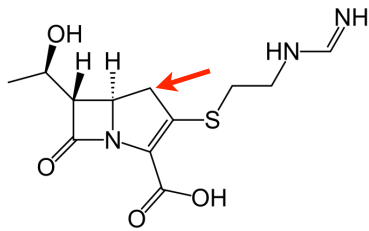


### Imipenem (carbapenem)

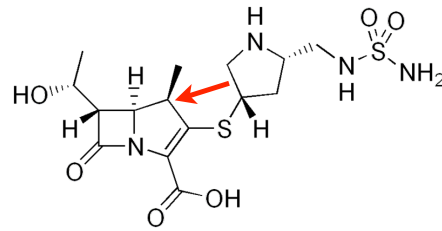


### Aztreonam (monobactam)

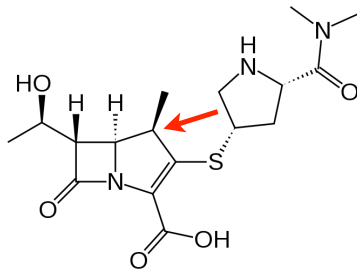
# Beta-lactam antibiotics: Carbapenems



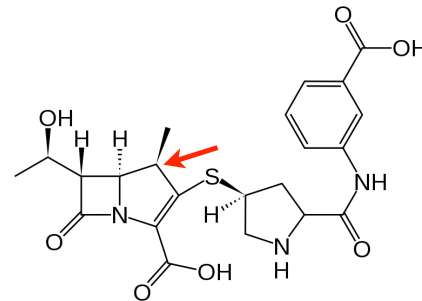
*Imipenem*



*Doripenem*



*Meropenem*



*Ertapenem*

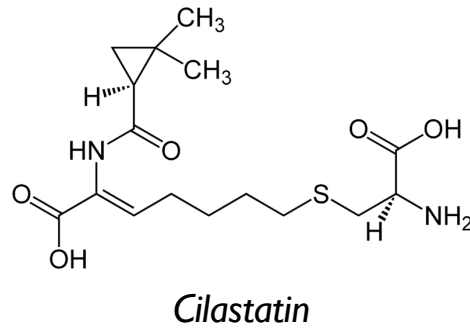
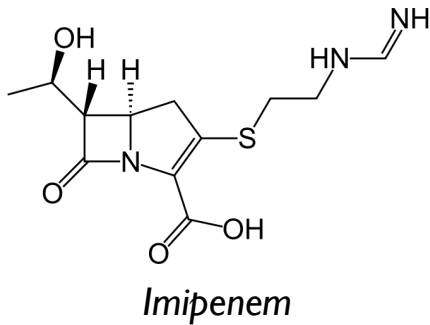
- Carbon instead of sulfur in 5-membered ring (→)
- All are IV products, none oral

## Carbapenems: general features

- **Highly resistant to most beta-lactamases**
  - Including to ESBLs and AmpC
  - Carbapenemases are emerging (KPC, VIM, NDM-1)
  - Induce expression of chromosomal beta-lactamases (though not degraded), thus switching to another beta-lactam after carbapenem not advised
- **Extremely broad spectrum; broader than penicillins, cephalosporins**
  - *Pseudomonas* coverage (not ertapenem), but MICs pretty high (all IV)
  - Not MRSA
  - Not *Enterococci*
- **Reserved for last line use or complicated cases**
  - Used for polymicrobial infections
  - If multi-drug resistance is evident
- **Relatively low toxicity**



# Carbapenems: Imipenem + Cilastatin



- Primaxin ® (Merck)
- Combined with cilastatin because normally imipenem would be hydrolyzed by a renal dihydropeptidase enzyme (DHP-I). Cilastatin inhibits this enzyme.
  - Other carbapenems more stable, do not require DHP-I inhibitor
- Imipenem unusual in that it actually also inhibits some beta-lactamases
- Risk for seizures (1.5-2%), thus not indicated for meningitis

# Carbapenems: Imipenem + Cilastatin

## ● Indicated microbial spectra:

### Gram-positive aerobes:

Enterococcus faecalis  
 (NOTE: Imipenem is inactive against Enterococcus faecium)  
 Staphylococcus aureus including penicillinase-producing strains  
 (NOTE: **not MRSA**)  
 Staphylococcus epidermidis including penicillinase-producing strains  
 Streptococcus agalactiae (Group B streptococci)  
 Streptococcus pneumoniae  
 Streptococcus pyogenes

### Gram-negative aerobes:

Acinetobacter spp.  
 Citrobacter spp.  
 Enterobacter spp.  
 Escherichia coli  
 Gardnerella vaginalis  
 Haemophilus influenzae  
 Haemophilus parainfluenzae  
 Klebsiella spp.  
 Morganella morganii  
 Proteus vulgaris  
 Providencia rettgeri  
 Pseudomonas aeruginosa  
 (NOTE: Imipenem is inactive in vitro against Xanthomonas (Pseudomonas) maltophilia and some strains of P. cepacia.)  
 Serratia spp., including S. marcescens

### Gram-positive anaerobes:

Bifidobacterium spp.  
 Clostridium spp.  
 Eubacterium spp.  
 Peptococcus spp.  
 Peptostreptococcus spp.  
 Propionibacterium spp.

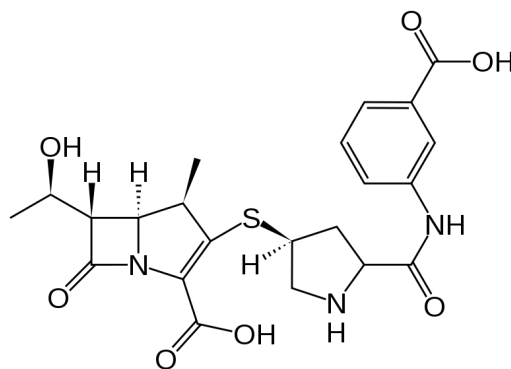
### Gram-negative anaerobes:

Bacteroides spp., including B. fragilis  
 Fusobacterium spp.

## Imipenem + Cilastatin: indicated uses

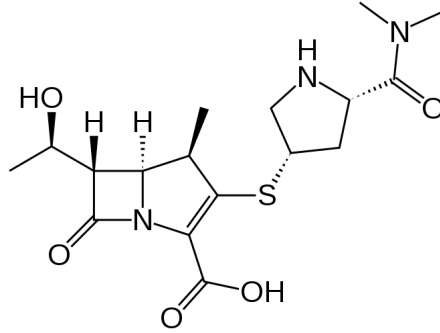
- Lower respiratory tract infections
- UTI, complicated and uncomplicated
- Intra-abdominal infections
- Gynecological infections
- Septicemia
- Bone and Joint infections
- Skin infections
- Endocarditis
- Polymicrobial infections

## Carbapenems: Meropenem



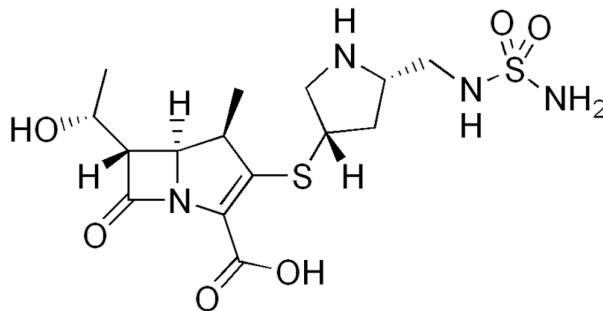
- Merrem ® (AstraZeneca)
- Lower seizure risk (0.4%) than imipenem. Indicated use for meningitis caused by *S. pneumoniae*, *H. influenzae*, *N. meningitidis*
- Other indicated uses:
  - Intra-abdominal infections caused by *Strep. viridans*, *E. coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *P. aeruginosa*, *B. fragilis*
  - Complicated skin infections (not MRSA)

## Carbapenems: Ertapenem



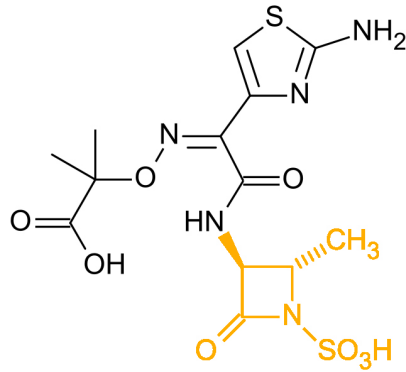
- Invanz ® (Merck)
- Possibly more susceptible to ESBL and AmpC than other carbapenems
- Very broad spectrum, thus good for polymicrobial infections
  - But not covering PRSP, not MRSA, not *Pseudomonas*
- Other indicated uses:
  - Complicated intra-abdominal infections
  - Complicated skin infections (not MRSA)
  - Complicated UTI
  - Pelvic infections
  - CAP (not involving PRSP)

## Carbapenems: Doripenem



- Doxibax ® (Ortho-McNeil)
- Very good activity against Gram-, including *Pseudomonas* and anaerobes
- Other indicated uses:
  - Complicated intra-abdominal infections
  - Complicated skin infections (not MRSA)
  - Complicated UTI
  - Pelvic infections
  - CAP (not involving PRSP)

## Monobactam: Aztreonam (IV, inhaled)



- Azactam® (Squibb), Cayston® (Gilead) and generics
- Natural product, but now produced synthetically
- Gram- spectrum, similar to aminoglycosides; (minimal Gram+ and anaerobe)
  - Activity against *Pseudomonas* (Cayston inhaled formulation: indicated for *P. aeruginosa* CF patient)
- Resistant to most beta-lactamases but not ESBL
- No penicillin allergy cross-reactivity