Ear Infections (Acute Otitis Media)

Acute otitis media is an infection of the middle ear. This is a part of the ear that is behind the eardrum. It is connected to the throat by a short tube called the Eustachian tube.¹

Acute otitis media is usually caused by germs (bacteria or viruses) that enter through the nose or the mouth and travel up the Eustachian tube to reach the middle ear. These germs are usually spread in the air by other children or adults.¹

An antibiotic should be prescribed only if the infection is caused by bacteria, since viral infections cannot be effectively treated with antibiotics¹.
SUPRAX® (cefixime) treatment for acute otitis media

If you or your child are being treated with SUPRAX® for an ear infection, your doctor or healthcare provider has made the diagnosis that it is a bacterial infection (not caused by a virus). SUPRAX® is an antibiotic that has a high cure rate for the kinds of bacteria that often cause acute otitis media.²

How to Administer SUPRAX®

General Information²*

- SUPRAX® is dosed once a day
- The exact dose in children under age 12 is based on their body weight
- Your doctor will note on the prescription how many days of treatment are necessary - be sure to follow the instructions and take all of the medication provided

*Otitis media should be treated only with chewable tablets or suspension.

Always complete the entire course of treatment unless told otherwise, and never “share” medications.

SUPRAX® is indicated for the treatment of otitis media caused by H. influenzae (ß-lactamase +/- strains), M. (Branhamella) catarrhalis (most of which are ß-lactamase positive), and S. pyogenes.

Important safety considerations

The most common adverse event related or probably related to SUPRAX® was GI upset. Several patients developed severe diarrhea and/or documented pseudomembranous colitis, and a few required hospitalization. The incidence of gastrointestinal adverse reactions, including diarrhea and loose stools, in pediatric patients receiving suspension was comparable to the incidence seen in adult patients receiving tablets. SUPRAX® is contraindicated in patients with known allergy to the cephalosporin group of antibiotics.

WARNINGS: BEFORE THERAPY WITH SUPRAX® IS INSTITUTED, CAREFUL INQUIRY SHOULD BE MADE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PATIENT HAS HAD PREVIOUS HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS TO CEPHALOSPORINS, PENICILLINS, OR OTHER DRUGS. IF THIS PRODUCT IS TO BE GIVEN TO PENICILLIN-SENSITIVE PATIENTS, CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED BECAUSE CROSS HYPERSENSITIVITY AMONG ß-LACTAM ANTIBIOTICS HAS BEEN CLEARLY DOCUMENTED AND MAY OCCUR IN UP TO 10% OF PATIENTS WITH A HISTORY OF PENICILLIN ALLERGY. IF AN ALLERGIC REACTION TO SUPRAX® OCCURS, DISCONTINUE THE DRUG. SERIOUS ACUTE HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS MAY REQUIRE TREATMENT WITH EPINEPHRINE AND OTHER EMERGENCY MEASURES, INCLUDING OXYGEN, INTRAVENOUS FLUIDS, INTRAVENOUS ANTIHISTAMINES, CORTICOSTEROIDS, PRESSOR AMINES AND AIRWAY MANAGEMENT, AS CLINICALLY INDICATED.

Please see accompanying Full Prescribing Information.