

Summary of Product Characteristics

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Minocet 300 mg Capsules.

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each capsule contains Cefdinir 300 mg.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Capsules.

Flesh opaque cap and flesh opaque body size “1” hard gelatin capsules imprinted with

“EP300” on the body containing white to off-white powder

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

To reduce the development of drug-resistant bacteria and maintain the effectiveness of cefdinir and other antibacterial drugs, cefdinir should be used only to treat or prevent infections that are proven or strongly suspected to be caused by susceptible bacteria. When culture and susceptibility information are available, they should be considered in selecting or modifying antibacterial therapy. In the absence of such data, local epidemiology and susceptibility patterns may contribute to the empiric selection of therapy. Minocet Capsules are indicated for the treatment of patients with mild to moderate infections caused by susceptible strains of the designated microorganisms in the conditions listed below.

Adults and Adolescents

Community-Acquired Pneumonia

Caused by *Haemophilus influenzae* (including β -lactamase producing strains), *Haemophilus parainfluenzae* (including β -lactamase producing strains), *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (penicillin-susceptible strains only), and *Moraxella catarrhalis* (including β -lactamase producing strains). (See **CLINICAL STUDIES**). Acute Exacerbations of Chronic Bronchitis

Caused by Haemophilus influenzae (including β -lactamase producing strains), Haemophilus parainfluenzae (including β -lactamase producing strains), Streptococcus pneumoniae (penicillin-susceptible strains only), and Moraxella catarrhalis (including β -lactamase producing strains).

Acute Maxillary Sinusitis

Caused by Haemophilus influenzae (including β -lactamase producing strains), Streptococcus pneumoniae (penicillin-susceptible strains only), and Moraxella catarrhalis (including β -lactamase producing strains).

NOTE: For information on use in pediatric patients, see **Pediatric Use** and **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**. Pharyngitis/Tonsillitis

Caused by **Streptococcus pyogenes** (see **CLINICAL STUDIES**).

NOTE: Minocet is effective in the eradication of *S. pyogenes* from the oropharynx. Cefdinir has not, however, been studied for the prevention of rheumatic fever following *S. pyogenes* pharyngitis/tonsillitis. Only intramuscular penicillin has been demonstrated to be effective for the prevention of rheumatic fever.

Uncomplicated Skin and Skin Structure Infections

Caused by Staphylococcus aureus (including β -lactamase producing strains) and Streptococcus pyogenes.

Pediatric Patients

Acute Bacterial Otitis Media

Caused by Haemophilus influenzae (including β -lactamase producing strains), Streptococcus pneumoniae (penicillin-susceptible strains only), and Moraxella catarrhalis (including β -lactamase producing strains). Pharyngitis/Tonsillitis

Caused by Streptococcus pyogenes (see **CLINICAL STUDIES**).

NOTE: Minocet is effective in the eradication of *S. pyogenes* from the oropharynx. Cefdinir has not, however, been studied for the prevention of rheumatic fever following *S. pyogenes*

pharyngitis/tonsillitis. Only intramuscular penicillin has been demonstrated to be effective for the prevention of rheumatic fever.

Uncomplicated Skin and Skin Structure Infections

Caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* (including β -lactamase producing strains) and *Streptococcus pyogenes*.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

(see **INDICATIONS AND USAGE** for Indicated Pathogens)

The recommended dosage and duration of treatment for infections in adults and adolescents are described in the following chart; the total daily dose for all infections is 600 mg. Once daily dosing for 10 days is as effective as b.i.d. dosing. Once-daily dosing has not been studied in pneumonia or skin infections; therefore, Cefdinir capsules should be administered twice daily in these infections. Minocet capsules may be taken without regard to meals. **Adults and Adolescents (Age 13 Years and Older)**

Type of Infection	Dos age	Duration
Community-Acquired Pneumonia	300 mg q12h	10 days
Acute Exacerbations of Chronic Bronchitis	300 mg q12h or 600 mg q24h	5 to 10 days 10 days
Acute Maxillary Sinusitis	300 mg q12h or 600 mg q24h	10 days 10 days
Pharyngitis/Tonsillitis	300 mg q12h or 600 mg q24h	5 to 10 days 10 days
Uncomplicated Skin and Skin Structure Infections	300 mg q12h	10 days

Patients With Renal Insufficiency

For adult patients with creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min, the dose of Minocet should be 300 mg given once daily.

Creatinine clearance is difficult to measure in outpatients. However, the following formula may be used to estimate creatinine clearance (CLcr) in adult patients. For estimates to be valid, serum creatinine levels should reflect steady-state levels of renal function.

Males:	CLcr =	(weight) (140 – age)
		(72) (serum creatinine)
Females:	CLcr =	0.85 x above value

Where creatinine clearance is in mL/min, age is in years, weight is in kilograms, and serum creatinine is in mg/dL.⁽³⁾

The following formula may be used to estimate creatinine clearance in pediatric patients:

CLcr = K x	body length or height
	serum creatinine

Where K=0.55 for pediatric patients older than 1 year⁽⁴⁾ and 0.45 for infants (up to 1 year).⁽⁵⁾

In the above equation, creatinine clearance is in mL/min/1.73 m², body length or height is in centimeters, and serum creatinine is in mg/dL.

For pediatric patients with a creatinine clearance of < 30 mL/min/1.73 m², the dose of Minocet should be 7 mg/kg (up to 300 mg) given once daily.

Patients on Hemodialysis

Hemodialysis removes cefdinir from the body. In patients maintained on chronic hemodialysis, the recommended initial dosage regimen is a 300 mg or 7 mg/kg dose every other day. At the conclusion of each hemodialysis session, 300 mg (or 7 mg/kg) should be given. Subsequent doses (300 mg or 7 mg/kg) are then administered every other day.

CLINICAL STUDIES Community-Acquired Bacterial Pneumonia

In a controlled, double-blind study in adults and adolescents conducted in the U.S., cefdinir b.i.d. was compared with cefaclor 500 mg t.i.d. Using strict evaluability and microbiologic/clinical response criteria 6 to 14 days post therapy, the following clinical cure rates, presumptive microbiologic eradication rates, and statistical outcomes were obtained:

U.S. Community-Acquired Pneumonia Study Cefdinir vs Cefaclor

	Cefdinir b.i.d.	Cefaclor t.i.d.	Outcome
Clinical Cure Rates	150/187 (80%)	147/186 (79%)	Cefdinir equivalent to control
Eradication Rates			Cefdinir equivalent to control
Overall	177/195 (91%)	184/200 (92%)	
S. pneumoniae	31/31 (100%)	35/35 (100%)	
H. influenzae	55/65 (85%)	60/72 (83%)	
M. catarrhalis	10/10 (100%)	11/11 (100%)	
H. parainfluenzae	81/89 (91%)	78/82 (95%)	

In a second controlled, investigator-blind study in adults and adolescents conducted primarily in Europe, cefdinir b.i.d. was compared with amoxicillin/clavulanate 500/125 mg t.i.d. Using strict evaluability and clinical response criteria 6 to 14 days post therapy, the following clinical cure rates, presumptive microbiologic eradication rates, and statistical outcomes were obtained:

European Community-Acquired Pneumonia Study Cefdinir vs Amoxicillin/Clavulanate

	Cefdinir b.i.d.	Amoxicillin/Clavulanate t.i.d.	Outcome
Clinical Cure Rates	83/104 (80%)	86/97 (89%)	Cefdinir not equivalent to control
Eradication Rates			Cefdinir equivalent to control
Overall	85/96 (89%)	84/90 (93%)	
S. pneumoniae	42/44 (95%)	43/44 (98%)	
H. influenzae	26/35 (74%)	21/26 (81%)	
M. catarrhalis	6/6 (100%)	8/8 (100%)	
H. parainfluenzae	11/11 (100%)	12/12 (100%)	

Streptococcal Pharyngitis /Tonsillitis

In four controlled studies conducted in the United States, cefdinir was compared with 10 days of penicillin in adult, adolescent, and pediatric patients. Two studies (one in adults and adolescents, the other in pediatric patients) compared 10 days of cefdinir q.d. or b.i.d. to penicillin 250 mg or 10 mg/kg q.i.d. Using strict evaluability and microbiologic/clinical response criteria 5 to 10 days post therapy, the following clinical cure rates, microbiologic eradication rates, and statistical outcomes were obtained:

Pharyngitis /Tonsillitis Studies Cefdinir (10 days) vs Penicillin (10 days)

Study	Efficacy Parameter	Cefdinir q.d.	Cefdinir b.i.d.	Penicillin q.i.d.	Outcome
Adults/ Adolescents	Eradication of S. pyogenes	192/210 (91%)	199/217 (92%)	181/217 (83%)	Cefdinir superior to control
	Clinical Cure Rates	199/210 (95%)	209/217 (96%)	193/217 (89%)	Cefdinir superior to control
Pediatric Patients	Eradication of S. pyogenes	215/228 (94%)	214/227 (94%)	159/227 (70%)	Cefdinir superior to control
	Clinical Cure Rates	222/228 (97%)	218/227 (96%)	196/227 (86%)	Cefdinir superior to control

Two studies (one in adults and adolescents, the other in pediatric patients) compared 5 days of cefdinir b.i.d. to 10 days of penicillin 250 mg or 10 mg/kg q.i.d. Using strict evaluability and microbiologic/clinical response criteria 4 to 10 days post therapy, the following clinical cure rates, microbiologic eradication rates, and statistical outcomes were obtained:

Pharyngitis /Tonsillitis Studies Cefdinir (5 days) vs Penicillin (10 days)

Study	Efficacy Parameter	Cefdinir b.i.d.	Penicillin q.i.d.	Outcome
Adults/ Adolescents	Eradication of S. pyogenes	193/218 (89%)	176/214 (82%)	Cefdinir equivalent to control
	Clinical Cure Rates	194/218 (89%)	181/214 (85%)	Cefdinir equivalent to control
Pediatric Patients	Eradication of S. pyogenes	176/196 (90%)	135/193 (70%)	Cefdinir superior to control
	Clinical Cure Rates	179/196 (91%)	173/193 (90%)	Cefdinir equivalent to control

4.3 Contraindications

Minocet is contraindicated in patients with known allergy to the cephalosporin class of antibiotics.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

WARNINGS

BEFORE THERAPY WITH MINOCET IS INSTITUTED, CAREFUL INQUIRY SHOULD BE MADE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PATIENT HAS HAD PREVIOUS HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS TO CEFDINIR, OTHER CEPHALOSPORINS, PENICILLINS, OR OTHER DRUGS. IF MINOCET IS TO BE GIVEN TO PENICILLINSENSITIVE PATIENTS, CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED BECAUSE CROSSHYPERSENSITIVITY AMONG β -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 CEFDINIR OCCURS, THE DRUG SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED. 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.

Clostridium difficile associated diarrhea (CDAD) has been reported with use of nearly all antibacterial agents, including cefdinir, and may range in severity from mild diarrhea to fatal colitis. Treatment with antibacterial agents alters the normal flora of the colon leading to overgrowth of C. difficile.

C. difficile produces toxins A and B which contribute to the development of CDAD. Hypertoxin producing strains of C. difficile cause increased morbidity and mortality, as these infections can be refractory to antimicrobial therapy and may require colectomy. CDAD must be considered in all patients who present with diarrhea following antibiotic use.

Careful medical history is necessary since CDAD has been reported to occur over two months after the administration of antibacterial agents.

If CDAD is suspected or confirmed, ongoing antibiotic use not directed against C. difficile may need to be discontinued. Appropriate fluid and electrolyte management, protein supplementation, antibiotic treatment of C. difficile, and surgical evaluation should be instituted as clinically indicated.

PRECAUTIONS General

Prescribing Minocet in the absence of a proven or strongly suspected bacterial infection or a prophylactic indication is unlikely to provide benefit to the patient and increases the risk of the development of drug-resistant bacteria.

As with other broad-spectrum antibiotics, prolonged treatment may result in the possible emergence and overgrowth of resistant organisms. Careful observation of the patient is essential. If super infection occurs during therapy, appropriate alternative therapy should be administered. Minocet, as with other broad-spectrum antimicrobials (antibiotics), should be prescribed with caution in individuals with a history of colitis.

In patients with transient or persistent renal insufficiency (creatinine clearance <30 mL/min), the total daily dose of Minocet should be reduced because high and prolonged plasma concentrations of cefdinir can result following recommended doses (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

Information for Patients

Patients should be counseled that antibacterial drugs including Minocet should only be used to treat bacterial infections. They do not treat viral infections (e.g., the common cold). When Minocet is prescribed to treat a bacterial infection, patients should be told that although it is common to feel better early in the course of therapy, the medication should be taken exactly as directed. Skipping doses or not completing the full course of therapy may (1) decrease the effectiveness of the immediate treatment and (2) increase the likelihood that bacteria will develop resistance and will not be treatable by cefdinir or other antibacterial drugs in the future.

Antacids containing magnesium or aluminum interfere with the absorption of cefdinir. If this type of antacid is required during cefdinir therapy, cefdinir should be taken at least 2 hours before or after the antacid.

Iron supplements, including multivitamins that contain iron, interfere with the absorption of cefdinir. If iron supplements are required during cefdinir therapy, cefdinir should be taken at least 2 hours before or after the supplement.

Diarrhea is a common problem caused by antibiotics which usually ends when the antibiotic is discontinued. Sometimes after starting treatment with antibiotics, patients can develop watery and bloody stools (with or without stomach cramps and fever) even as late as two or more months after having taken the last dose of the antibiotic. If this occurs, patients should contact their physician as soon as possible.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Antacids (Aluminum- or Magnesium-Containing)

Concomitant administration of 300 mg Minocet capsules with 30 mL Maalox® TC suspension reduces the rate (C_{max}) and extent (AUC) of absorption by approximately 40%. Time to reach C_{max} is also prolonged by 1 hour. There are no significant effects on cefdinir pharmacokinetics if the antacid is administered 2 hours before or 2 hours after cefdinir. If antacids are required during cefdinir therapy, cefdinir should be taken at least 2 hours before or after the antacid.

Probenecid

As with other β -lactam antibiotics, probenecid inhibits the renal excretion of cefdinir, resulting in an approximate doubling in AUC, a 54% increase in peak cefdinir plasma levels, and a 50% prolongation in the apparent elimination $t_{1/2}$.

Iron Supplements and Foods Fortified With Iron

Concomitant administration of cefdinir with a therapeutic iron supplement containing 60 mg of elemental iron (as FeSO₄) or vitamins supplemented with 10 mg of elemental iron reduced extent of absorption by 80% and 31%, respectively. If iron supplements are required during cefdinir therapy, cefdinir should be taken at least 2 hours before or after the supplement.

The effect of foods highly fortified with elemental iron (primarily iron-fortified breakfast cereals) on cefdinir absorption has not been studied.

There have been reports of reddish stools in patients receiving cefdinir. In many cases, patients were also receiving iron-containing products. The reddish color is due to the formation of a non absorbable complex between cefdinir or its breakdown products and iron in the gastrointestinal tract.

Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions

A false-positive reaction for ketones in the urine may occur with tests using nitroprusside, but not with those using nitroferricyanide. The administration of cefdinir may result in a false-positive reaction for glucose in urine using Clinitest®, Benedict's solution, or Fehling's solution. It is recommended that glucose tests based on enzymatic glucose oxidase reactions (such as Clinistix® or Tes-Tape®) be used. Cephalosporins are known to occasionally induce a positive direct Coombs' test.

Carcinogenesis , Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

The carcinogenic potential of cefdinir has not been evaluated. No mutagenic effects were seen in the bacterial reverse mutation assay (Ames) or point mutation assay at the hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyltransferase locus (HGPRT) in V79 Chinese hamster lung cells. No clastogenic effects were observed *in vitro* in the structural chromosome aberration assay in V79 Chinese hamster lung cells or *in vivo* in the micronucleus assay in mouse bone marrow. In rats, fertility and reproductive performance were not affected by cefdinir at oral doses up to 1000 mg/kg/day (70 times the human dose based on mg/kg/day, 11 times based on mg/m²/day).

Pediatric Use

Safety and efficacy in neonates and infants less than 6 months of age have not been established. Use of cefdinir for the treatment of acute maxillary sinusitis in pediatric patients (age 6 months through 12 years) is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies in adults and adolescents, the similar pathophysiology of acute sinusitis in adult and pediatric patients, and comparative pharmacokinetic data in the pediatric population.

Geriatric Use

Efficacy is comparable in geriatric patients and younger adults. While cefdinir has been well-tolerated in all age groups, in clinical trials geriatric patients experienced a lower rate of adverse events, including diarrhea, than younger adults. Dose adjustment in elderly patients is not necessary unless renal function is markedly compromised (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

4.6 Pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

Teratogenic Effects

Pregnancy Category B

Cefdinir was not teratogenic in rats at oral doses up to 1000 mg/kg/day (70 times the human dose based on mg/kg/day, 11 times based on mg/m²/day) or in rabbits at oral doses up to 10 mg/kg/day (0.7 times the human dose based on mg/kg/day, 0.23 times based on mg/m²/day). Maternal toxicity (decreased body weight gain) was observed in rabbits at the maximum tolerated dose of 10 mg/kg/day without adverse effects on offspring. Decreased body weight occurred in rat fetuses at ≥ 100 mg/kg/day, and in rat offspring at ≥ 32 mg/kg/day. No effects were observed on maternal reproductive parameters or offspring survival, development, behavior, or reproductive function.

There are, however, no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Labor and Delivery

Cefdinir has not been studied for use during labor and delivery.

Laboratory Value Changes Observed with Cefdinir Capsules U.S. Trials in Adult and Adolescent Patients (N=3841)

Incidence \geq 1%	↑Urine leukocytes ↑Urine protein ↑Gamma-glutamyltransferase * ↓Lymphocytes, ↑Lymphocytes ↑Microhematuria	2% 2% 1% 1%, 0.2% 1%
Incidence < 1% but > 0.1%	↑Glucose * ↑Urine glucose	0.9% 0.9%
	↑White blood cells, ↓White blood cells ↑Alanine aminotransferase (ALT) ↑Eosinophils ↑Urine specific gravity, ↓Urine specific gravity * ↓Bicarbonate * ↑Phosphorus, ↓Phosphorus* ↑Aspartate aminotransferase (AST) ↑Alkaline phosphatase ↑Blood urea nitrogen (BUN) ↓Hemoglobin ↑Polymorphonuclear neutrophils (PMNs), ↓PMNs ↑Bilirubin ↑Lactate dehydrogenase* ↑Platelets ↑Potassium* ↑Urine pH*	0.9%, 0.7% 0.7% 0.7% 0.6%, 0.2% 0.6% 0.6%, 0.3% 0.4% 0.3% 0.3% 0.3% 0.3%, 0.2% 0.2% 0.2% 0.2% 0.2% 0.2%

*N < 384 1 for these parameters

Postmarketing Experience

The following adverse experiences and altered laboratory tests, regardless of their relationship to cefdinir, have been reported during extensive postmarketing experience, beginning with approval in Japan in 1991: shock, anaphylaxis with rare cases of fatality, facial and laryngeal edema, feeling of suffocation, serum sickness-like reactions, conjunctivitis, stomatitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis, exfoliative dermatitis, erythema multiforme, erythema nodosum, acute hepatitis, cholestasis, fulminant hepatitis, hepatic failure, jaundice, increased amylase, acute enterocolitis, bloody diarrhea, hemorrhagic colitis, melena, pseudomembranous colitis, pancytopenia, granulocytopenia, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, hemolytic anemia, acute respiratory failure, asthmatic attack, drug-induced pneumonia, eosinophilic pneumonia, idiopathic interstitial pneumonia, fever, acute renal failure, nephropathy, bleeding tendency, coagulation disorder, disseminated intravascular coagulation, upper GI bleed, peptic ulcer, ileus, loss of consciousness, allergic vasculitis, possible cefdinir/indoclofenac interaction, cardiac failure, chest pain, myocardial infarction, hypertension, involuntary movements, and rhabdomyolysis. **Cephalosporin Class**

Adverse Events

The following adverse events and altered laboratory tests have been reported for cephalosporin-class antibiotics in general:

Allergic reactions, anaphylaxis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, erythema multiforme, toxic epidermal necrolysis, renal dysfunction, toxic nephropathy, hepatic dysfunction including

cholestasis, aplastic anemia, hemolytic anemia, hemorrhage, false-positive test for urinary glucose, neutropenia, pancytopenia, and agranulocytosis. Pseudomembranous colitis symptoms may begin during or after antibiotic treatment (see WARNINGS).

Several cephalosporins have been implicated in triggering seizures, particularly in patients with renal impairment when the dosage was not reduced (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION and OVERDOSAGE). If seizures associated with drug therapy occur, the drug should be discontinued.

Anticonvulsant therapy can be given if clinically indicated.

4.9 Overdose

Information on cefdinir over dosage in humans is not available. In acute rodent toxicity studies, a single oral 5600 mg/kg dose produced no adverse effects. Toxic signs and symptoms following over dosage with other β -lactam antibiotics have included nausea, vomiting, epigastric distress, diarrhea, and convulsions. Hemodialysis removes cefdinir from the body. This may be useful in the event of a serious toxic reaction from over dosage, particularly if renal function is compromised.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

As with other cephalosporins, bactericidal activity of cefdinir results from inhibition of cell wall synthesis. Cefdinir is stable in the presence of some, but not all, β -lactamase enzymes. As a result, many organisms resistant to penicillin and some cephalosporins are susceptible to cefdinir.

5.2 Pharmacokinetics properties

Absorption Oral Bioavailability

Maximal plasma cefdinir concentrations occur 2 to 4 hours post dose following capsule or suspension administration. Plasma cefdinir concentrations increase with dose, but the increases are less than dose proportional from 300 mg (7 mg/kg) to 600 mg (14 mg/kg).

Following administration of suspension to healthy adults, cefdinir bioavailability is 120% relative to capsules. Estimated bioavailability of cefdinir capsules is 21% following administration of a 300 mg capsule dose, and 16% following administration of a 600 mg capsule dose. Estimated absolute bioavailability of cefdinir suspension is 25%. Cefdinir oral suspension of 250 mg/5 mL strength was shown to be bioequivalent to the 125 mg/5 mL strength in healthy adults under fasting conditions.

Effect of Food

The C_{max} and AUC of cefdinir from the capsules are reduced by 16% and 10%, respectively, when given with a high-fat meal. In adults given the 250 mg/5 mL oral suspension with a high-fat meal, the C_{max} and AUC of cefdinir are reduced by 44% and 33%, respectively. The magnitude of these reductions is not likely to be clinically significant because the safety and efficacy studies of oral suspension in pediatric patients were conducted without regard to food intake. Therefore, Minocet may be taken without regard to food.

Minocet Capsules

Cefdinir plasma concentrations and pharmacokinetic parameter values following administration of single 300 and 600 mg oral doses of cefdinir to adult subjects are presented in the following table:

Mean (\pm SD) Plasma Cefdinir Pharmacokinetic Parameter Values Following Administration of Capsules to Adult Subjects

Dose	C_{max} (mcg/mL)	T_{max} (hr)	AUC (mcg•hr/mL)
300 mg	1.60 (0.55)	2.9 (0.89)	7.05 (2.17)
600 mg	2.87 (1.01)	3.0 (0.66)	11.1 (3.87)

Multiple Dosing

Cefdinir does not accumulate in plasma following once- or twice-daily administration to subjects with normal renal function.

Distribution

The mean volume of distribution ($V_{d_{area}}$) of cefdinir in adult subjects is 0.35 L/kg (\pm 0.29); in pediatric subjects (age 6 months to 12 years), cefdinir $V_{d_{area}}$ is 0.67 L/kg (\pm 0.38). Cefdinir is

60% to 70% bound to plasma proteins in both adult and pediatric subjects; binding is independent of concentration.

Skin Blister

In adult subjects, median (range) maximal blister fluid cefdinir concentrations of 0.65 (0.33 to 1.1) and 1.1 (0.49 to 1.9) mcg/mL were observed 4 to 5 hours following administration of 300 and 600 mg doses, respectively. Mean (\pm SD) blister C_{max} and AUC (0- ∞) values were 48% (\pm 13) and 91% (\pm 18) of corresponding plasma values. **Tonsil Tissue**

In adult patients undergoing elective tonsillectomy, respective median tonsil tissue cefdinir concentrations 4 hours after administration of single 300 and 600 mg doses were 0.25 (0.22 to 0.46) and 0.36 (0.22 to 0.80) mcg/g. Mean tonsil tissue concentrations were 24% (\pm 8) of corresponding plasma concentrations.

Sinus Tissue

In adult patients undergoing elective maxillary and ethmoid sinus surgery, respective median sinus tissue cefdinir concentrations 4 hours after administration of single 300 and 600 mg doses were < 0.12 (< 0.12 to 0.46) and 0.21 (< 0.12 to 2.0) mcg/g. Mean sinus tissue concentrations were 16% (\pm 20) of corresponding plasma concentrations. **Lung Tissue**

In adult patients undergoing diagnostic bronchoscopy, respective median bronchial mucosa cefdinir concentrations 4 hours after administration of single 300 and 600 mg doses were 0.78 (< 0.06 to 1.33) and 1.14 (< 0.06 to 1.92) mcg/mL, and were 31% (\pm 18) of corresponding plasma concentrations.

Respective median epithelial lining fluid concentrations were 0.29 (< 0.3 to 4.73) and 0.49 (< 0.3 to 0.59) mcg/mL, and were 35% (\pm 83) of corresponding plasma concentrations.

Middle Ear Fluid

In 14 pediatric patients with acute bacterial otitis media, respective median middle ear fluid cefdinir concentrations 3 hours after administration of single 7 and 14 mg/kg doses were 0.21 (< 0.09 to 0.94) and 0.72 (0.14 to 1.42) mcg/mL. Mean middle ear fluid concentrations were 15% (\pm 15) of corresponding plasma concentrations. **CSF**

Data on cefdinir penetration into human cerebrospinal fluid are not available.

Metabolism and Excretion

Cefdinir is not appreciably metabolized. Activity is primarily due to parent drug. Cefdinir is eliminated principally via renal excretion with a mean plasma elimination half-life ($t_{1/2}$) of 1.7 (\pm 0.6) hours. In healthy subjects with normal renal function, renal clearance is 2.0 (\pm 1.0) mL/min/kg, and apparent oral clearance is 11.6 (\pm 6.0) and 15.5 (\pm 5.4) mL/min/kg following doses of 300 and 600 mg, respectively.

Mean percent of dose recovered unchanged in the urine following 300 and 600 mg doses is 18.4% (\pm 6.4) and 11.6% (\pm 4.6), respectively. Cefdinir clearance is reduced in patients with renal dysfunction (see **Special Populations: Patients with Renal Insufficiency**).

Because renal excretion is the predominant pathway of elimination, dosage should be adjusted in patients with markedly compromised renal function or who are undergoing hemodialysis (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

Special Populations Patients with Renal Insufficiency

Cefdinir pharmacokinetics were investigated in 21 adult subjects with varying degrees of renal function.

Decreases in cefdinir elimination rate, apparent oral clearance (CL/F), and renal clearance were approximately proportional to the reduction in creatinine clearance (CL_{cr}). As a result, plasma cefdinir concentrations were higher and persisted longer in subjects with renal impairment than in those without renal impairment. In subjects with CL_{cr} between 30 and 60

mL/min, C_{\max} and $t_{1/2}$ increased by approximately 2-fold and AUC by approximately 3-fold. In subjects with $CL_{cr} < 30$ mL/min, C_{\max} increased by approximately 2-fold, $t_{1/2}$ by approximately 5-fold, and AUC by approximately 6-fold.

Dosage adjustment is recommended in patients with markedly compromised renal function (creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min; see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

Hemodialysis

Cefdinir pharmacokinetics were studied in 8 adult subjects undergoing hemodialysis. Dialysis (4 hours duration) removed 63% of cefdinir from the body and reduced apparent elimination $t_{1/2}$ from 16 (± 3.5) to 3.2 (± 1.2) hours. Dosage adjustment is recommended in this patient population (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

Hepatic Disease

Because cefdinir is predominantly renally eliminated and not appreciably metabolized, studies in patients with hepatic impairment were not conducted. It is not expected that dosage adjustment will be required in this population.

Geriatric Patients

The effect of age on cefdinir pharmacokinetics after a single 300 mg dose was evaluated in 32 subjects 19 to 91 years of age. Systemic exposure to cefdinir was substantially increased in older subjects ($N=16$), C_{\max} by 44% and AUC by 86%. This increase was due to a reduction in cefdinir clearance.

The apparent volume of distribution was also reduced, thus no appreciable alterations in apparent elimination $t_{1/2}$ were observed (elderly: 2.2 ± 0.6 hours vs young: 1.8 ± 0.4 hours). Since cefdinir clearance has been shown to be primarily related to changes in renal function rather than age, elderly patients do not require dosage adjustment unless they have markedly compromised renal function (creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min, see Patients With Renal Insufficiency, above).

Gender and Race

The results of a meta-analysis of clinical pharmacokinetics ($N=217$) indicated no significant impact of either gender or race on cefdinir pharmacokinetics.

Microbiology

As with other cephalosporins, bactericidal activity of cefdinir results from inhibition of cell wall synthesis. Cefdinir is stable in the presence of some, but not all, β -lactamase enzymes. As a result, many organisms resistant to penicillins and some cephalosporins are susceptible to cefdinir.

Cefdinir has been shown to be active against most strains of the following microorganisms, both *in vitro* and in clinical infections as described in **INDICATIONS AND USAGE**.

Aerobic Gram-Positive Microorganisms

Staphylococcus aureus (including β -lactamase producing strains) NOTE:

Cefdinir is inactive against methicillin-resistant staphylococci.

Streptococcus pneumoniae (penicillin-susceptible strains only)

Streptococcus pyogenes

Aerobic Gram-Negative Microorganisms

Haemophilus influenzae (including β -lactamase producing strains)

Haemophilus parainfluenzae (including β -lactamase producing strains)

Moraxella catarrhalis (including β -lactamase producing strains)

The following *in vitro* data are available, **but their clinical significance is unknown**. Cefdinir exhibits *in vitro* minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs) of 1 mcg/mL or less against ($\geq 90\%$) strains of the following microorganisms; however, the safety and effectiveness of

cefdinir in treating clinical infections due to these microorganisms have not been established in adequate and well controlled clinical trials.

Aerobic Gram-Positive Microorganisms

Staphylococcus epidermidis (methicillin-susceptible strains only)

Streptococcus agalactiae

Viridans group streptococci

NOTE: Cefdinir is inactive against *Enterococcus* and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus* species.

Aerobic Gram-Negative Microorganisms

Citrobacter diversus

Escherichia coli

Klebsiella pneumoniae

Proteus mirabilis

NOTE: Cefdinir is inactive against *Pseudomonas* and *Enterobacter* species.

Susceptibility Tests

Dilution Techniques

Quantitative methods are used to determine antimicrobial minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs).

These MICs provide estimates of the susceptibility of bacteria to antimicrobial compounds. The MICs should be determined using a standardized procedure. Standardized procedures are based on a dilution method¹ (broth or agar) or equivalent with standardized inoculum concentrations and standardized concentrations of cefdinir powder. The MIC values should be interpreted according to the following criteria:

For organisms other than *Haemophilus* spp. and *Streptococcus* spp:

MIC (mcg/mL)	Interpretation
≤ 1	Susceptible (S)
2	Intermediate (I)
≥ 4	Resistant (R)

For *Haemophilus* spp:*

MIC (mcg/mL)	Interpretation†
≤ 1	Susceptible (S)

*These interpretive standards are applicable only to broth microdilution susceptibility tests with *Haemophilus* spp. using *Haemophilus* Test Medium (HTM).⁽¹⁾

†The current absence of data on resistant strains precludes defining any results other than “Susceptible.” Strains yielding MIC results suggestive of a “nonsusceptible” category should be submitted to a reference laboratory for further testing.

For *Streptococcus* spp:

Streptococcus pneumoniae that are susceptible to penicillin (MIC ≤ 0.06 mcg/mL), or streptococci other than *S. pneumoniae* that are susceptible to penicillin (MIC ≤ 0.12 mcg/mL), can be considered susceptible to cefdinir. Testing of cefdinir against penicillin-intermediate or penicillin-resistant isolates is not recommended. Reliable interpretive criteria for cefdinir are not available.

A report of “Susceptible” indicates that the pathogen is likely to be inhibited if the antimicrobial compound in the blood reaches the concentration usually achievable. A report of “Intermediate” indicates that the result should be considered equivocal, and, if the microorganism is not fully susceptible to alternative, clinically feasible drugs, the test should

be repeated. This category implies possible clinical applicability in body sites where the drug is physiologically concentrated or in situations where high dosage of drug can be used. This category also provides a buffer zone which prevents small uncontrolled technical factors from causing major discrepancies in interpretation. A report of “Resistant” indicates that the pathogen is not likely to be inhibited if the antimicrobial compound in the blood reaches the concentrations usually achievable; other therapy should be selected.

Standardized susceptibility test procedures require the use of laboratory control microorganisms to control the technical aspects of laboratory procedures. Standard cefdinir powder should provide the following MIC values:

Microorganism	MIC Range (mcg/mL)
Escherichia coli ATCC 25922	0.12-0.5
Haemophilus influenzae ATCC 49766*	0.12-0.5
Staphylococcus aureus ATCC 29213	0.12-0.5

*This quality control range is applicable only to H. influenzae ATCC 4 9766 tested by a broth micro dilution procedure using HTM.

Diffusion Techniques

Quantitative methods that require measurement of zone diameters also provide reproducible estimates of the susceptibility of bacteria to antimicrobial compounds. One such standardized procedure ⁽²⁾ requires the use of standardized inoculum concentrations. This procedure uses paper disks impregnated with 5 mcg cefdinir to test the susceptibility of microorganisms to cefdinir.

Reports from the laboratory providing results of the standard single-disk susceptibility test with a 5 mcg cefdinir disk should be interpreted according to the following criteria: **For organisms other than Haemophilus spp. and Streptococcus spp.:***

Zone Diameter (mm)	Interpretation
≥ 20	Susceptible (S)
17-19	Intermediate (I)
≤ 16	Resistant (R)

*Because certain strains of Citrobacter, Providencia, and Enterobacter spp. have been reported to give false susceptible results with the cefdinir disk, strains of these genera should not be tested and reported with this disk. **For Haemophilus spp.:***

Zone Diameter (mm)	Interpretation [†]
≥ 20	Susceptible (S)

*These zone diameter standards are applicable only to tests with Haemophilus spp. using HTM.⁽²⁾

†The current absence of data on resistant strains precludes defining any results other than “Susceptible.” Strains yielding MIC results suggestive of a “nonsusceptible” category should be submitted to a reference laboratory for further testing.

For Streptococcus spp.:

Isolates of Streptococcus pneumoniae should be tested against a 1 mcg oxacillin disk. Isolates with oxacillin zone sizes ≥ 20 mm are susceptible to penicillin and can be considered susceptible to cefdinir.

Streptococci other than S. pneumoniae should be tested with a 10-unit penicillin disk. Isolates with penicillin zone sizes ≥ 28 mm are susceptible to penicillin and can be considered susceptible to cefdinir.

As with standardized dilution techniques, diffusion methods require the use of laboratory control microorganisms to control the technical aspects of laboratory procedures. For the diffusion technique, the 5 mcg cefdinir disk should provide the following zone diameters in these laboratory quality control strains:

Organism	Zone Diameter (mm)
Escherichia coli ATCC 25922	24-28
Haemophilus influenzae ATCC 49766*	24-31
Staphylococcus aureus ATCC 25923	25-32

*This quality control range is applicable only to testing of H. influenzae ATCC 4 9766 using HTM.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

- Microcrystalline Cellulose. - Carmellose Calcium.
- Colloidal Silicone Dioxide.
- Polyoxyl Stearate.
- Magnesium Stearate.
- E,G Capsule Size 1 Flesh

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

6.3 Shelf life

2 years.

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store below 30°C.

After opening, it should be used within 10 days.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

10 capsules packed in HDPE bottle, packed in a printed carton with folded leaflet.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Tabuk Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company

P.O. Box 3633

Tabuk - Saudi Arabia

Tel: 00966144283030

Fax: 00966144283031

8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

Minocet ® 300 mg Capsules:

In Ethiopia: **08217/09004/NMR/2021**

9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

Minocet ® 300 mg Capsules:

First Authorisation in Ethiopia: **15-12-2023**

10. Date of revision of the text

August 2023