

## Package leaflet: Information for the user

### Fortum 1 g powder for solution for injection or infusion

ceftazidime

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or nurse.
- If you get any side effects talk to your doctor or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet:**

1. What Fortum is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you are given Fortum
3. How Fortum is given
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Fortum
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What Fortum is and what it is used for**

Fortum is an antibiotic used in adults and children (including newborn babies). It works by killing bacteria that cause infections. It belongs to a group of medicines called *cephalosporins*.

#### **Fortum is used to treat severe bacterial infections of:**

- the lungs or chest
- the lungs and bronchi in patients suffering from cystic fibrosis
- the brain (*meningitis*)
- the ear
- the urinary tract
- the skin and soft tissues
- the abdomen and abdominal wall (*peritonitis*)
- the bones and joints.

Fortum can also be used:

- to prevent infections during prostate surgery in men
- to treat patients with low white blood cell counts (*neutropenia*) who have a fever due to a bacterial infection.

#### **2. What you need to know before you are given Fortum**

##### **You must not be given Fortum:**

- **if you are allergic to ceftazidime** or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
  - if you have had a **severe allergic reaction** to any **other antibiotic** (penicillins, monobactams and carbapenems) as you may also be allergic to Fortum.
- ➔ **Tell your doctor before** you start on Fortum if you think that this applies to you. You must not be given Fortum.

##### **Take special care with Fortum**

You must look out for certain symptoms such as allergic reactions, nervous system disorders and gastrointestinal disorders such as diarrhoea while you are being given Fortum. This will reduce the risk of possible problems. See ('*Conditions you need to look out for*') in section 4. If you have had an allergic reaction to other antibiotics you may also be allergic to Fortum.

Serious skin reactions including Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis, drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS), acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP) have been reported in association with ceftazidime treatment. Seek medical attention immediately if you notice any of the symptoms related to these serious skin reactions described in section 4.

#### **If you need a blood or urine test**

Fortum can affect the results of urine tests for sugar and a blood test known as the *Coombs test*. If you are having tests:

➔ **Tell the person taking the sample** that you have been given Fortum.

#### **Other medicines and Fortum**

Tell your doctor if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines. This includes medicines you can obtain without a prescription.

You shouldn't be given Fortum without talking to your doctor if you are also taking:

- an antibiotic called *chloramphenicol*
- a type of antibiotic called *aminoglycosides* e.g. *gentamicin*, *tobramycin*
- water tablets called *furosemide*

➔ **Tell your doctor** if this applies to you.

#### **Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility**

Ask your doctor for advice before you are given Fortum:

- If you are pregnant, think you might be pregnant or are planning to become pregnant
- If you are breastfeeding

Your doctor will consider the benefit of treating you with Fortum against the risk to your baby.

#### **Driving and using machines**

Fortum can cause side effects that affect your ability to drive, such as dizziness.

Don't drive or use machines unless you are sure you're not affected.

#### **Fortum contains sodium (main component of cooking/table salt)**

You need to take this into account if you are on a controlled sodium diet.

This medicine contains 52 mg (2.26 mmol) of sodium per vial. This is equivalent to 2.6% of the recommended maximum daily dietary intake of sodium for an adult.

### **3. How Fortum is given**

#### **Fortum is usually given by a doctor or nurse.**

Fortum can be given as a drip (intravenous infusion) or as an injection directly into a vein or into a muscle

Fortum is made up by the doctor, pharmacist or nurse using water for injections or a suitable infusion fluid.

#### **The recommended dose**

The correct dose of Fortum for you will be decided by your doctor and depends on: the severity and type of infection; whether you are on any other antibiotics; your weight and age; how well your kidneys are working.

#### **Newborn babies (0-2 months)**

**For every 1 kg the baby weighs**, they'll be given 25 to 60 mg Fortum per day divided in two doses.

**Babies (over 2 months) and children** who weigh less than 40 kg  
**For every 1 kg the baby or child weighs**, they'll be given 100 to 150 mg of Fortum per day divided in three doses. Maximum 6 g per day.

**Adults and adolescents** who weigh 40 kg or more  
1 to 2 g of Fortum three times daily. Maximum of 9 g per day.

#### **Patients over 65**

The daily dose should not normally exceed 3 g per day, especially if you are over 80 years of age.

#### **Patients with kidney problems**

You may be given a different dose to the usual dose. The doctor or nurse will decide how much Fortum you will need, depending on the severity of the kidney disease. Your doctor will check you closely and you may have more regular kidney function tests.

#### **If you are given more Fortum than you should**

If you accidentally use more than your prescribed dose, contact your doctor or nearest hospital straight away.

#### **If you forget to use Fortum**

If you miss an injection, you should have it as soon as possible. Don't take a double dose (two injections at the same time) to make up for a missed dose, just take your next dose at the usual time.

#### **Don't stop taking Fortum**

Don't stop taking Fortum unless your doctor tells you to. If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine ask your doctor or nurse.

### **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

#### **Seek medical attention immediately if you notice any of the following symptoms:**

- Reddish patches on the trunk, the patches are target-like macules or circular, often with central blisters, skin peeling, ulcers of mouth, throat, nose, genitals and eyes. These serious skin rashes can be preceded by fever and flu-like symptoms (Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis).
- Widespread rash, high body temperature and enlarged lymph nodes (DRESS syndrome or drug hypersensitivity syndrome).
- A red, scaly widespread rash with bumps under the skin and blisters accompanied by fever. The symptoms usually appear at the initiation of treatment (acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis).

#### **Conditions you need to look out for**

The following serious side effects have occurred in a small number of people but their exact frequency is unknown:

- **severe allergic reaction.** Signs include **raised and itchy rash, swelling**, sometimes of the face or mouth causing **difficulty in breathing**.
  - **Nervous system disorders:** tremors, fits and, in some cases coma. These have occurred in people when the dose they are given is too high, particularly in people with kidney disease.
- ➔ **Contact a doctor or nurse immediately if you get any of these symptoms.**

#### **Common side effects**

These may affect **up to 1 in 10** people:

- diarrhoea
- swelling and redness along a vein
- red raised skin rash which may be itchiness
- pain, burning, swelling or inflammation at the injection site.

→ **Tell your doctor** if any of these are troubling you.

Common side effects that may show up in blood tests:

- an increase in a type of white blood cell (*eosinophilia*)
- an increase in the number of cells that help the blood to clot
- an increase in liver enzymes.

#### **Uncommon side effects**

These may affect **up to 1 in 100** people:

- inflammation of the gut which can cause pain or diarrhoea which may contain blood
- thrush -fungal infections in the mouth or vagina
- headache
- dizziness
- stomach ache
- feeling sick or being sick
- fever and chills.

→ **Tell your doctor** if you get any of these.

Uncommon side effects that may show up in blood tests:

- a decrease in the number of white blood cells
- a decrease in the number of blood platelets (cells that help the blood to clot)
- an increase in the level of urea, urea nitrogen or serum creatinine in the blood.

#### **Very rare side effects**

These may affect **up to 1 in 10,000** people:

- inflammation or failure of the kidneys

#### **Other side effects**

Other side effects have occurred in a small number of people but their exact frequency is unknown:

- pins and needles
- unpleasant taste in the mouth
- yellowing of the whites of the eyes or skin.

Other side effects that may show up in blood tests:

- red blood cells destroyed too quickly
- an increase in a certain type of white blood cells
- severe decrease in the number of white blood cells.

#### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the national reporting system: HPRA Pharmacovigilance; website: [www.hpra.ie](http://www.hpra.ie). By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

### **5. How to store Fortum**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the vial and carton after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Store below 25°C.

#### Reconstituted and diluted solution

The doctor, pharmacist or nurse will make up your medicine in Water for Injections or compatible fluids. Once made up, this medicine should be used within 6 days if stored in refrigerator (at 4°C) or within 9 hours if stored at room temperature (below 25°C).

Keep vials in the outer carton to protect from light.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Your doctor or nurse will throw away any medicine that is no longer required. This will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Fortum contains**

- Fortum is available in the following strength: 1 g. The active substance is 1 g of ceftazidime (present as ceftazidime pentahydrate).
- The only other ingredient is sodium carbonate (anhydrous sterile).
- See section 2 for further important information about sodium, one of the ingredients of Fortum.

### **What Fortum looks like and contents of the pack**

Fortum 1 g powder for solution for injection or infusion is a sterile white to cream powder filled in glass 17 ml, 26 ml, 60 ml or 77 ml vial with a bromobutyl rubber plug and a flip-off type aluminium overseal.

Available in packs of 1, 5, 10, 50 or 100 vials.

Your doctor, pharmacist or nurse will make the injection or infusion up with Water for Injections or a suitable infusion fluid. When made up, Fortum varies in colour from light yellow to amber. This is perfectly normal.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

#### **Marketing Authorisation Holder**

Sandoz Pharmaceuticals d.d.  
Verovškova ulica 57  
1000 Ljubljana  
Slovenia

#### **Manufacturer**

ACS Dobfar S.p.A., Via Alessandro Fleming 2, 37135 Verona, Italy.

### **This medicine is authorised in the Member States of the European Economic Area and in the United Kingdom (Northern Ireland) under the following names:**

France, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland – Fortum  
Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg – Glazidim

**This leaflet was last revised in 09/2024.**

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The following information is intended for healthcare professionals only:

### **Please refer to the Summary of Product Characteristics for further information**

#### **Shelf Life**

3 years.

#### After reconstitution:

Chemical and physical in-use stability has been demonstrated for 6 days at 4°C and 9 hours at 25°C in Water for Injections or compatible fluids listed below.

From a microbiological point of view, the reconstituted solution should be used immediately. If not

used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions prior to use are the responsibility of the user and would normally not be longer than 24 hours at 2 to 8°C, unless reconstitution has taken place in controlled and validated aseptic conditions.

After dilution:

Chemical and physical in-use stability has been demonstrated for 6 days at 4°C and 9 hours at 25°C in Water for Injections or compatible fluids listed below.

From a microbiological point of view, the reconstituted and diluted solution should be used immediately. If not used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions prior to use are the responsibility of the user and would normally not be longer than 24 hours at 2 to 8°C, unless reconstitution has taken place in controlled and validated aseptic conditions

**Special precautions for storage**

Store below 25°C.

Keep vials in the outer carton to protect from light.

**Special precautions for disposal and other handling**

All sizes of vials of Fortum are supplied under reduced pressure. As the product dissolves, carbon dioxide is released and a positive pressure develops. Small bubbles of carbon dioxide in the constituted solution may be ignored.

Instructions for constitution

See Table 1 and Table 2 for addition volumes and solution concentrations, which may be useful when fractional doses are required.

Table 1: Powder for Solution for Injection

Presentation	Amount of diluent to be added (ml)	Approximate concentration (mg/ml)
1 g		
Intramuscular	3 ml	260
Intravenous bolus	10 ml	90

Note:

- The resulting volume of the solution of ceftazidime in reconstitution medium is increased due to the displacement factor of the drug product resulting in the listed concentrations in mg/ml presented in the above table.

Table 2: Powder for Solution for Infusion

Presentation	Amount of diluent to be added (ml)	Approximate concentration (mg/ml)
1 g		
Intravenous infusion	50 ml*	20

\* Addition should be in two stages.

Note:

- The resulting volume of the solution of ceftazidime in reconstitution medium is increased due to the displacement factor of the drug product resulting in the listed concentrations in mg/ml presented in the above table.

Solutions range in colour from light yellow to amber depending on concentration, diluent and storage conditions used. Within the stated recommendations, product potency is not adversely affected by such colour variations.

Ceftazidime at concentrations between 1 mg/ml and 40 mg/ml is compatible with:

- sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection
- M/6 sodium lactate injection
- compound sodium lactate injection (Hartmann's solution)
- 5% dextrose injection
- 0.225% sodium chloride and 5% dextrose injection
- 0.45% sodium chloride and 5% dextrose injection
- 0.9% sodium chloride and 5% dextrose injection
- 0.18% sodium chloride and 4% dextrose injection
- 10% dextrose Injection
- Dextran 40 injection 10% in 0.9% sodium chloride injection
- Dextran 40 injection 10% in 5% dextrose Injection
- Dextran 70 injection 6% in 0.9% sodium chloride injection
- Dextran 70 injection 6% in 5% dextrose injection.

Ceftazidime at concentrations between 0.05 mg/ml and 0.25 mg/ml is compatible with Intra-peritoneal Dialysis Fluid (Lactate).

Ceftazidime at concentrations detailed in Table 1 may be constituted for intramuscular use with 0.5% or 1% Lidocaine Hydrochloride Injection.

#### Preparation of solutions for bolus injection

1. Insert the syringe needle through the vial closure and inject the recommended volume of diluent. The vacuum may assist entry of the diluent. Remove the syringe needle.
2. Shake to dissolve: carbon dioxide is released and a clear solution will be obtained in about 1 to 2 minutes.
3. Invert the vial. With the syringe plunger fully depressed, insert the needle through the vial closure and withdraw the total volume of solution into the syringe (the pressure in the vial may aid withdrawal). Ensure that the needle remains within the solution and does not enter the head space. The withdrawn solution may contain small bubbles of carbon dioxide; they may be disregarded.

These solutions may be given directly into the vein or introduced into the tubing of a giving set if the patient is receiving parenteral fluids. Ceftazidime is compatible with the intravenous fluids listed above.

#### Preparation of solutions for iv infusion from ceftazidime injection in standard vial presentation (mini-bag or burette-type set):

Prepare using a total of 50 ml (for 1 g vials) and 75 ml (for 3 g vials) of compatible diluents (listed above), added in TWO stages as below.

1. Introduce the syringe needle through the vial closure and inject 10 ml of diluent for the 1 g vial, and 15 ml for the 3 g vial.
2. Withdraw the needle and shake the vial to give a clear solution.
3. Do not insert a gas relief needle until the product has dissolved. Insert a gas relief needle through the vial closure to relieve the internal pressure.
4. Transfer the reconstituted solution to final delivery vehicle (e.g. mini-bag or burette-type set) making up a total volume of at least 50 ml (75 ml for the 3 g vial), and administer by intravenous infusion over 15 to 30 min.

Note: To preserve product sterility, it is important that the gas relief needle is not inserted through the vial closure before the product has dissolved.

Any residual antibiotic solution should be discarded.

For single use only.

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.