

# ZERBAXA® Powder for Injection

*Ceftolozane and tazobactam*

---

## Consumer Medicine Information

---

### What is in this leaflet

---

This leaflet answers some of the more common questions about ZERBAXA. It does not contain all of the available information.

It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you having ZERBAXA against the benefits this medicine is expected to have for you.

**If you have any concerns or questions about being given this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

**Keep this leaflet.**

You may need to read it again.

---

### What ZERBAXA is used for

---

ZERBAXA contains two active substances:

- Ceftolozane, an antibiotic that belongs to the group of “cephalosporins”. Ceftolozane can kill many kinds of bacteria that can cause infection.
- Tazobactam belongs to the group of medicines known as “beta-lactamase inhibitors”. Tazobactam can help ceftolozane work against some resistant types of bacteria.

When ceftolozane and tazobactam are given together, more types of bacteria are killed.

ZERBAXA is used in adults and children (birth to less than 18 years of age) to treat:

- Complicated abdominal and urinary system infections, including a condition called pyelonephritis.

ZERBAXA is an antibiotic prescribed to treat adults aged 18 years or older with:

- Noscomial pneumonia (an infection of the lungs that can occur while in the hospital or in recently hospitalised patients), including a condition called ‘ventilator-associated pneumonia’ (an infection of the lungs that can occur while on a respirator).

Your doctor may have prescribed ZERBAXA for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why ZERBAXA has been prescribed for you.

ZERBAXA is only available with a doctor’s prescription.

ZERBAXA is not addictive.

---

## **Before you are given ZERBAXA**

---

### ***When you must not be given it***

#### **Do not have Zerbaxa:**

- if you are allergic to ceftolozane, tazobactam or any of the other ingredients in this medicine
- if you are highly allergic to beta-lactam class antibiotics (such as penicillin), or medicines known as “cephalosporins” (e.g., cephalexin).

Some symptoms of an allergic reaction may include rash, itching or hives on the skin, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body, shortness of breath, wheezing or trouble breathing.

### ***Before you are given it***

#### **Tell your doctor:**

- if you know you are, or have previously been hypersensitive to cephalosporins, penicillins or other antibacterial medicines.
- if you have recently had diarrhoea, or have had diarrhoea before taking this medicine.
- if you know you have difficulty fighting off infections, are receiving medicines to help fight infections, or have neutropenia (low white blood cell count).
- if you have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.

#### **Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.**

Your doctor will advise if you should receive ZERBAXA during pregnancy.

#### **Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed.**

Your doctor will discuss the possible risks and benefits of using ZERBAXA while you are breast-feeding.

### ***Taking other medicines***

#### **Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including medicines you buy without a prescription from a pharmacy or health food shop.**

Some medicines and ZERBAXA may interfere with each other, including

- probenecid (a medicine for gout)
- diclofenac (a medicine to treat pain and inflammation associated with arthritis)
- cimetidine (a medicine used to treat heartburn and stomach ulcers).

These medicines can increase the time it takes for tazobactam to leave your body.

Some medicines may be affected by ZERBAXA or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of these medicines, or you may need to be given different medicines. Your doctor will advise you.

#### **If you have not told your doctor or pharmacist about any of the above, tell them before you receive ZERBAXA.**

### *Use in children*

ZERBAXA can be given to children from birth and older to treat complicated bacterial infections within the abdomen and urinary tract system, including a condition called “pyelonephritis” (a type of urinary tract infection that affects one or both kidneys).

---

## **How ZERBAXA is given**

---

### *How much is given*

#### **Adults**

The recommended dose depends on the type of infection that you have, where the infection is in your body and how serious the infection is. Your doctor will decide on the dose that you need. The recommended dose is one or two vials of ZERBAXA (containing 1000 mg of ceftolozane and 500 mg of tazobactam) every 8 hours, which is given into one of your veins (directly into the bloodstream).

#### **Children**

The dose for children will be calculated by the doctor based on the weight of the child.

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

Your doctor may need to reduce the dose of ZERBAXA or how often you are given it. Your doctor may also want to test your blood to make sure that your treatment is at the right dose, especially if you have to take this medicine for a long time. ZERBAXA should not be given to children with kidney problems.

### *How it is given*

Your doctor or other healthcare professional will give you this medicine through an infusion (a drip for 1 hour) into one of your veins.

### *How long it is given for*

Treatment with ZERBAXA normally lasts between 4 and 14 days, depending on the severity and location of the infection and on how your body responds to the treatment.

Your doctor will determine when your treatment should be stopped.

### *If you are given too much (overdose)*

As this product is administered by a doctor or healthcare professional, it is very unlikely that you will be given too much ZERBAXA. However, if you have any concerns, talk to your doctor or other health care professional.

---

## **Whilst you are receiving ZERBAXA**

---

### *Things you must do*

**If you develop diarrhoea whilst being given ZERBAXA, tell your doctor immediately. Do this even if it occurs several weeks after stopping ZERBAXA.**

This may be a sign of a serious side effect that affects the bowel. You may need urgent medical care.

**If you think you have not been given a dose of ZERBAXA, tell your doctor or other healthcare professional immediately.**

---

## **Side effects**

---

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are being given ZERBAXA.**

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

**Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.**

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following and they worry you:**

For patients treated for complicated bacterial infections within the abdomen and urinary tract system, the more common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people) include:

- Headache
- Abdominal pain (stomach ache)
- Constipation
- Diarrhoea
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Increase in liver enzymes (from blood tests)
- Rash
- Fever (high temperature)
- Decrease in blood pressure
- Decrease in potassium (from blood tests)
- Increase in the number of certain types of blood cells known as platelets
- Dizziness
- Anxiety
- Insomnia
- Local problems (e.g abnormal redness of the skin, inflammation, pain, itching, or rash) when putting a substance into a vein (infusion site reactions)

Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people) include:

- Inflammation of the large intestine due to *C. difficile* bacteria
- Inflammation of the stomach
- Abdominal bloating
- Indigestion
- Excessive gas in stomach or bowel
- Obstruction of the intestine

- Yeast infection in the mouth (thrush)
- Yeast infection of female genitalia
- Fungal urinary tract infection
- Increase in sugar (glucose) levels (from blood tests)
- Decrease in magnesium levels (from blood tests)
- Decrease in phosphate levels (from blood tests)
- Ischemic stroke (stroke caused by reduced blood flow in brain)
- Blood clot in a vein (venous thrombosis)
- Low red blood cell counts
- Atrial fibrillation (a condition involving rapid or irregular heartbeat)
- Fast heart beat
- Chest pain or feeling tightness, pressure or heaviness in chest (angina pectoris)
- Coombs test positive (a blood test that looks for antibodies that may fight against your red blood cells)
- Itchy rash or swelling on the skin (hives)
- Kidney problems
- Kidney disease
- Shortness of breath

For patients treated for nosocomial pneumonia, the more common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people) include:

- Inflammation of the large intestine due to *C.difficile* bacteria
- Diarrhoea
- Vomiting
- Increase in liver enzymes (from blood tests)

Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people) include:

- Infection due to *C.difficile* bacteria
- *C.difficile* test positive (from stool test)
- Coombs test positive (a blood test that looks for antibodies that may fight against your red blood cells)

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

This is not a complete list of all possible side effects. Your doctor or pharmacist has a more complete list. Others may occur in some people and there may be some side effects not yet known.

Tell your doctor if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell, even if it is not on this list.

---

## **After being given ZERBAXA**

---

### ***Storage***

ZERBAXA will be stored in the pharmacy or on the ward.

ZERBAXA is stored in its original packaging and in a refrigerator between 2 and 8°C.

Heat and light can destroy some medicines.

### ***Disposal***

Hospital staff will dispose of this medicine safely.

---

## **Product description**

---

### ***What does ZERBAXA Powder for Injection look like?***

ZERBAXA is a white to slightly yellow powder infusion supplied in glass containers (vials).

The powder is mixed with sterile liquid to give a clear, colourless to yellow solution for infusion by your doctor.

### ***Ingredients***

#### **Active ingredients**

- Ceftolozane sulfate Tazobactam sodium

#### **Inactive ingredients**

- Anhydrous citric acid
- Sodium Chloride
- Arginine

### ***Sponsor***

Merck Sharp & Dohme (New Zealand) Limited

P O Box 99 851

Newmarket

Auckland 1149

New Zealand

This leaflet was prepared 14 June 2023

CCPPI-MK7625A-IV-092022

000024845, 000020792

Copyright © 2023 Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ, USA, and its affiliates. All rights reserved.