

# Cephalexin or Cefdinir for UTIs, which to choose?

Oral beta-lactams are used for a variety of urinary tract infections (UTIs).

Below you will find some facts to help guide your decision-making process.

## Antibiogram

Cephalexin & Cefdinir have equivalent efficacy for UTI caused by *E coli*, *Klebsiella*, and *Proteus* species.

Average 90% coverage of 2022 UNCMC community urine *E coli* isolates (Outpatient & ED)



## Risk of CDI

Cefdinir is associated with an increased risk of *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI) compared to Cephalexin



## Spectrum of Activity

Cephalexin is more targeted in spectrum compared to Cefdinir



## Cost

Cefdinir dosage forms are routinely 2-3x more expensive\* than Cephalexin dosage forms

\*Based on cash price estimates; insurance coverage may vary



## Contact CASP

If you have additional questions about management of a specific patient's UTI course, contact a member of CASP via Epic by messaging the group "CASP"



## Cephalexin Dosing for Pediatric & Adult Patients with UTI

UTI Classification	Adult	Pediatrics
<b>UTI with bladder symptoms only (i.e., cystitis)</b>	500mg PO three times daily x5 days	50mg/kg/day PO divided two to three times daily x5 days (max = 500mg/dose)
<b>UTI with systemic symptoms (i.e., pyelonephritis)</b>	500mg PO three to four times daily x10-14 days	75mg/kg/day PO divided three times daily x10-14 days (max = 1000mg/dose)

Carolina Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (CASP)