CEFTIOFUR SODIUM

Veterinary Drug Directorate (VDD) Category:	1 (High importance)
Brand names:	Excenel 4g (4g Ceftiofur sodium)
Labelled for treatment of:	Bovine respiratory disease and Footrot
Able to be used in Lactating dairy cattle:	YES
Label dose:	1mg/kg IM once daily for up to 5 days
Label withhold times:	Milk: NIL Meat: NIL
May be used off label for the treatment of:	Metritis, Enteritis, Leptospirosis, Vaginitis, Cervicitis, Pinkeye, Cellulitis, Pyelonephritis, Cystitis, Urinary tract infections, Septicemia, Infected wounds and Pre- and Post-operative
Off label dose range:	2.2mg/kg IM, IV or SubQ twice daily for 5 days. 5mg/kg IM, IV or SubQ once daily for 5 days. 20mg/kg IM, IV or SubQ once daily for 3 days.
Off label withhold times:	Consult CgFARAD when using this product at the off label dose for withhold times.

Comments:
Ceftiofur is a broad spectrum, bactericidal, third generation cephalosporin/beta-lactam antibiotic that is incredibly popular in dairy cattle medicine due to its unique feature of having no milk withhold, and is often overused by farmers especially. Because the molecule is very large and does not cross into the udder (hence the no milk withhold) or into the nervous system, Ceftiofur is not recommended for treating mastitis or neurologic diseases. Its cost also often makes it less favourable when long term therapy is required. Ceftiofur is one of our best antibiotics for treating gram-negative and coliform infections in dairy cattle but as a category 1 antimicrobial it is imperative that we use this drug sparingly.