Kentucky Public Health
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Kentucky Ceftriaxone Adverse Reactions Notification and Call for Cases

March 28, 2025

The CDC, in collaboration with state and local health departments, is investigating reports of serious adverse events, including deaths, following receipt of injectable ceftriaxone (brand names Ceftrisol Plus® and Rocephin®). To date, events have not been associated with a single product manufacturer or lot, and a definitive causal link to ceftriaxone has not been established.

The Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) was recently notified by two healthcare facilities in different parts of the state about medical events associated with administration of ceftriaxone. These events included three adverse reaction events at one facility and five at a second facility. These ceftriaxone administration-related events occurred between October 2024 and March 2025. Different dose strengths, routes of administration, and healthcare settings were associated with these events.

Due to the possibility that additional adverse events have occurred in Kentucky or might still be occurring, KDPH is actively seeking reports of severe adverse reactions associated with ceftriaxone administration or reconstitution issues.

Specific adverse events for which we are seeking reports include:

- **Death**
  - If the patient died after receiving the medical product in what appears to be an event associated with ceftriaxone administration
- **Life-threatening outcome**
  - If the patient was at substantial risk of dying at the time of the adverse event, or if continued use of the medical product might have resulted in the death of the patient
- **Hospitalization (initial or prolonged)**
  - If admission to the hospital or prolongation of hospitalization was as a result of the adverse event
- **Outcomes which required intervention to prevent permanent impairment or damage**
  - If medical or surgical intervention was delivered to prevent permanent impairment of a body function or prevent permanent damage to a body structure due to the use of the ceftriaxone medical product
- **Other serious medical events (not usual or minor reactions to ceftriaxone administration)**
  - Examples include allergic bronchospasm (a serious problem with breathing) requiring treatment in an emergency room

If you have medical documentation of an event that fits any of the categories described above, between October 1, 2024 *to the present*, KDPH asks that you report that event. You can do this by sending an email to Michael Curran at michael.curran@ky.gov with the Subject line "Ceftriaxone Reaction Report." KDPH will then contact you to gather additional information.

KDPH recommends submitting a report to FDA's MedWatch on any adverse event that might be related to a pharmaceutical or other medication using Form FDA 3500 found on FDA's MedWatch website.