Cephalexin is an antibiotic medication, and has been given to you or your child to treat a suspected urinary tract infection (UTI).

Do not take this medication if you or your child have had an allergic reaction to other cephalosporin antibiotics. Do not take this medication if you or your child have had a serious allergic reaction to penicillin.

All medicines have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, but most of the time they are not. Medical attention may be needed if you or your child get some of the side effects. Tell your doctor if you or your child develops:

- sore or white mouth or tongue (oral thrush)
- sore and itchy vagina and/or discharge (another form of thrush)
- diarrhoea
- nausea/vomiting
- dizziness
- unusual tiredness/weakness
- abdominal pain

Report to the Emergency Department should you or your child develop sudden signs of allergy such as rash, itching or hives on the skin with swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body, shortness of breath, wheezing or has trouble breathing.

It is important to complete the full course that has been provided, even if you or your child begin to feel better after a few days. If not, the bacteria causing the infection may not clear completely and symptoms may return.

Your doctor may prescribe a change of antibiotics when you are reviewed. You or your child will no longer need to continue on cephalexin if this occurs.

Additional Instructions

Seeking help:

In a medical emergency go to your nearest emergency department or call 000.

Disclaimer: This information answers some common questions about cephalexin. If you have any concerns, consult your doctor or other health professional to make sure this information is right for you.