

# AVAILABILITY OF LIQUID ANTIMICROBIALS

## A NATIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT SUPPLY SITUATION

N. Riesenhuber • M. Krauss • K. Moßburger • C. Gradwohl • G. Stemer

University Hospital Vienna, Pharmacy, Vienna, Austria  
St. Anna Children's Hospital, Paediatrics, Vienna, Austria

### BACKGROUND AND AIM

Oral liquid dosage forms of various antimicrobials represent the mainstay of therapy for **paediatric infections**, especially in infants and young children. However, **shortages** of such preparations have dramatically **increased** over the past year, challenging adequate therapy, especially in the community setting.

The aim of this study was to assess the **supply situation of various antimicrobials in liquid dosage forms** in Austria.

**42**  
products

containing 15 different antimicrobials in liquid dosage forms are authorised in Austria



**19%** n=8

complete unavailability



**8 of 10** n=34

unavailable for over 50% of the time

Feb-Aug 2023

Data extracted **once weekly, over 27 weeks**, from a major Austrian full-service pharmaceutical wholesaler.

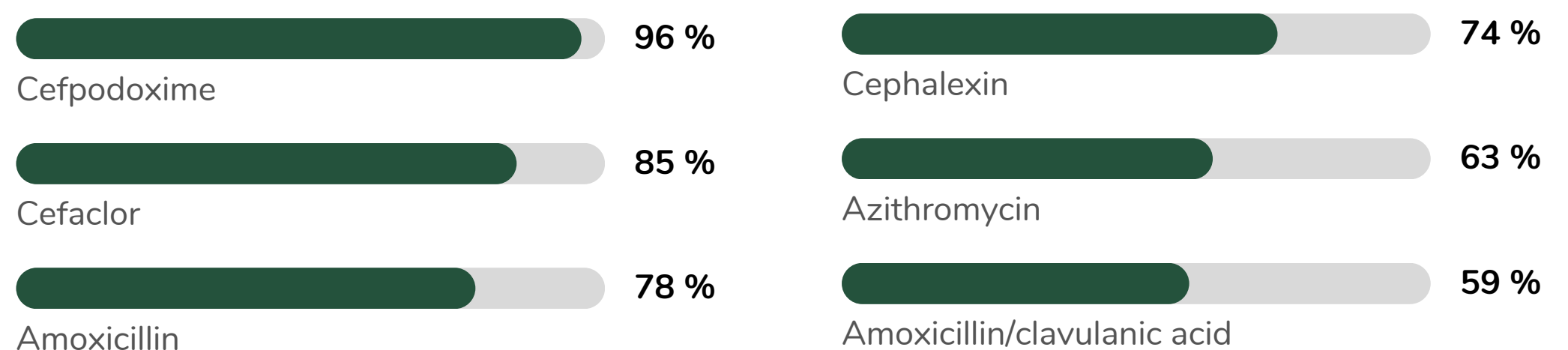


Fig 1. Unavailability of antibiotics in liquid dosage forms

### CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

Medicines shortages, especially involving antibiotics, pose a global public health dilemma that can lead to **adverse health outcomes**. **Regular monitoring** of availability status can help mitigate this issue; however, **cross-national strategies** are urgently needed to guarantee a constant supply in the future.

