




ATC codes: Pending

Indication	Hypovolaemia <span>ICD11 code: 5C70.1</span>
INN	Polygeline
Medicine type	Chemical agent
List type	Core
Formulations	Parenteral > General injections > IV: 3.5% in solution
EML status history	First added in 1989 (TRS 796) Removed in 2005 (TRS 933)
Sex	All
Age	Adolescents and adults
Therapeutic alternatives	Medicines within the same pharmacological class can be used
Patent information	Read more <a href="#">about patents</a> . 
Wikipedia	<a href="#">Polygeline</a> 
DrugBank	<a href="#">Polygeline</a> 

### Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

In 2003 the Expert Committee recommended reviewing polygeline for possible fast-track deletion at the meeting in 2005. One review was received from the ISDB and one from Médecins Sans Frontières. A Cochrane review (1) of 57 trials involving 3659 patients compared the effects of different colloid solutions in patients thought to need blood volume replacement. It showed that there is no evidence that one colloid solution is more effective or safer than any other. Another Cochrane review (2) indicated that there is no evidence from randomized controlled trials that resuscitation with colloids, compared with resuscitation with crystalloids, reduces the risk of death in patients with trauma or burns or following surgery. The Committee also noted that the cost of polygeline (US\$ 0.0126/ml) is twice that of dextran 70 in normal saline (US\$ 0.0056/ml) (12). The Committee concluded that polygeline and dextran 70 are similar in safety and efficacy. The Committee decided that, in view of its lower price, dextran 70 should be retained on the Model List, with a square box to cover polygeline. The choice made will depend on national circumstances. A full review of colloids compared with crystalloids would be welcome at the next meeting of the Committee. References: 1. Bunn F, Alderson P, Hawkins V. Colloid solutions for fluid resuscitation. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2003, (1) (<http://www.cochrane.org/cochrane/revabstr/AB001319.htm>, accessed 12 October 2004). 2. Roberts I et al. Colloids versus crystalloids for fluid resuscitation in critically ill patients. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2004, (4) (<http://www.cochrane.org/cochrane/revabstr/AB002045.htm>, accessed 10 January 2005).

