Saquinavir

NOT RECOMMENDED AS AN ESSENTIAL MEDICINE

Section: 6. Anti-infective medicines > 6.4. Antiviral medicines > 6.4.2. Antiretrovirals > 6.4.2.3. Antiretrovirals > Protease inhibitors

EMLc | ATC codes: J05AE01

Indication	Human immunodeficiency virus disease without mention of tuberculosis or malaria, clinical stage unspecified ICD11 code: 1C62.Z
INN	Saquinavir
Medicine type	Chemical agent
List type	Core
Formulations	**Oral > Solid:** 200 mg ; 500 mg
EML status history	First added in 2002 (TRS 914) Changed in 2007 (TRS 950) Changed in 2009 (TRS 958) Removed in 2017 (TRS 1006)
Sex	All
Age	Also recommended for children
Weight restriction	> 25 kg
Therapeutic alternatives	The recommendation is for this specific medicine
Patent information	Patents have expired in most jurisdictions Read more about patents.
Wikipedia	Saquinavir
DrugBank	Saquinavir

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

The Expert Committee recommended the deletion of saquinavir from the Model Lists, noting that that clinical use of the protease inhibitor saquinavir has declined over time with the introduction of newer antiretroviral agents with lower pill burden, similar or greater effectiveness and lower risk of toxicity. Unlike other protease inhibitors, saquinavir is associated with QT prolongation and a requirement for ECG monitoring. Numerous alternative protease inhibitors (with and without ritonavir) remain listed on the EML.