

[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](#)

ATC codes: [J05AE01](#)

EMLc

Indication

Human immunodeficiency virus disease without mention of associated disease or condition, 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.