Metformin

Section: 18. Medicines for endocrine disorders > 18.5. Medicines for diabetes > 18.5.2. Hypoglycaemic agents

EMLc ATC codes: A10BA02

Indication	Type 2 diabetes mellitus ICD11 code: 5A11
INN	Metformin
Medicine type	Chemical agent
List type	Core (EML) Complementary (EMLc)
Formulations	**Oral > Solid:** 500 mg (hydrochloride)
EML status history	First added in 1997 (TRS 882) Changed in 2007 (TRS 950)
Sex	All
Age	Also recommended for children
Therapeutic alternatives	The recommendation is for this specific medicine
Patent information	Patents have expired in most jurisdictions Read more about patents.
Wikipedia	Metformin
DrugBank	Metformin

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

The EMLc Subcommittee noted that there is an emerging need for oral anti diabetic drugs suitable for children due to the increasing obesity epidemic and increasing Type II diabetes in children. The Subcommittee noted that glibenclamide and metformin were still primarily used in adult populations for Type II diabetes. The potential need of these medicines in adolescents and children was recognized. The Subcommittee decided not to include glibenclamide in the EMLc at present. The Subcommittee decided to include metformin in the EMLc on the complementary list. This area should be reviewed at a subsequent meeting taking into account available medicines and the changing epidemiology of Type II diabetes in children under 12 years.