### Indication
- Pruritus due to skin disorder  
  **ICD11 code:** EC90.0

### INN
- Betamethasone

### Medicine type
- Chemical agent

### List type
- Core (EML)
- (EMLc)

### Formulations
- Local > Topical > Cream: 0.1% (as valerate)
- Local > Topical > Ointment: 0.1% (as valerate)

### EML status history
- First added in 1977 ([TRS 615](https://www.who.int/tdr/trs/1977/615))
- Changed in 1979 ([TRS 641](https://www.who.int/tdr/trs/1979/641))
- Changed in 2007 ([TRS 950](https://www.who.int/tdr/trs/2007/950))
- Changed in 2021 ([TRS 1035](https://www.who.int/tdr/trs/2021/1035))

### Sex
- All

### Age
- Also recommended for children

### Age restriction
- Hydrocortisone preferred in neonates.

### Therapeutic alternatives
- Medicines within the same pharmacological class can be used

### Therapeutic alternatives limitations
- Therapeutic alternatives are medicines in the 4th level ATC chemical subgroup: D07AC Corticosteroids, potent (group III).

### Therapeutic alternatives limitations for EMLc
- Therapeutic alternatives are medicines in the 4th level ATC chemical subgroup: D07AC Corticosteroids, potent (group III).

### Patent information
- Patents have expired in most jurisdictions
  Read more about patents.

### Wikipedia
- [Betamethasone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Betamethasone)

### DrugBank
- [Betamethasone](https://www.drugbank.ca/drugs/DB00828)

### Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

Following the review of square box listings on the EML and EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended that medicines in 4th level ATC chemical subgroup, D07AC Corticosteroids, potent (group III), be specified as therapeutic alternatives under the square box listing for betamethasone on the EML and EMLc.