

[Chloramphenicol](#)

Essential medicine status

Section:

[5. Medicines for neurological disorders](#) [5.1. Medicines for central nervous system disorders](#) [5.1.6. Medicines for central nervous system infections](#) [5.1.6.1. Medicines for bacterial central nervous system infections](#)

ATC codes: [J01BA01](#)

EMLc

Indication

Bacterial meningitis ICD11 code: [8E71.0Z](#)

INN

Chloramphenicol

Medicine type

Chemical agent

Antibiotic groups

[ACCESS](#)

List type

Core

Additional notes

Oily suspension for injection formulation is only for the presumptive treatment of epidemic meningitis in children older than 2 years and in adults.

Formulations

Parenteral > General injections > IV: 1 g in vial powder for injection (sodium succinate)

Parenteral > General injections > IM: 500 mg in 2 mL ampoule oily suspension for injection

EML status history

First added in 2025 ([TRS 1064](#))

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

[Chloramphenicol](#)

DrugBank

[Chloramphenicol](#)

Expert Committee recommendation

Listings of medicines for treatment of bacterial central nervous system infections are duplicated in this section from section 6.

EML recommendations: Bacterial meningitis

First choice

Second choice

First choice

[cefotaxime](#)

[ceftriaxone](#)

[cefotaxime](#)

[ceftriaxone](#)

Second choice

[ampicillin](#)

[benzylpenicillin](#)

[amoxicillin](#)

[chloramphenicol](#)

[amoxicillin](#)

[ampicillin](#)

[benzylpenicillin](#)

[chloramphenicol](#)