

# Paracetamol (acetaminophen)



Essential medicine status ✓

Section: 2. Medicines for pain and palliative care > 2.1. Non-opioids and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines (NSAIDs)

	<b>EMLc</b>	<b>ATC codes: N02BE01</b>
<b>Indication</b>	Pain	ICD11 code: <b>ML0Z</b>
<b>INN</b>	Paracetamol	
<b>Medicine type</b>	Chemical agent	
<b>List type</b>	Core (EML) (EMLc)	
<b>Additional notes</b>	*Not recommended for anti-inflammatory use due to lack of proven benefit to that effect. **The presence of both 120 mg/5 mL and 125 mg/5 mL oral liquid strengths on the same market would cause confusion in prescribing and dispensing and should be avoided.	
<b>Formulations</b>	Oral > Liquid: 125 mg per 5 mL ; 120 mg per 5 mL ; 250 mg per 5 mL (EMLc) Local > Rectal > Suppository: 100 mg ; 250 mg (EMLc) Oral > Solid > dispersible tablet: 100 mg (EMLc) ; 250 mg (EMLc) Oral > Solid > tablet: 250 mg ; 325 mg ; 500 mg	
<b>EML status history</b>	First added in 1977 ( <a href="#">TRS 615</a> ) Changed in 1979 ( <a href="#">TRS 641</a> ) Changed in 1987 ( <a href="#">TRS 770</a> ) Changed in 2007 ( <a href="#">TRS 950</a> ) Changed in 2017 ( <a href="#">TRS 1006</a> ) Changed in 2023 ( <a href="#">TRS 1049</a> )	
<b>Sex</b>	All	
<b>Age</b>	Also recommended for children	
<b>Therapeutic alternatives</b>	The recommendation is for this specific medicine	
<b>Patent information</b>	Patents have expired in most jurisdictions Read more <a href="#">about patents</a> .	
<b>Wikipedia</b>	<a href="#">Paracetamol (acetaminophen)</a>	
<b>DrugBank</b>	<a href="#">Paracetamol (Acetaminophen)</a>	

## Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

Following the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations on the EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended: - the deletion of the 100 mg tablet formulation from the EML and EMLc - strengths of paracetamol tablets should be specified rather than given in a range - the addition of a 250 mg strength suppository formulation to the EMLc - the addition of paracetamol dispersible tablets (100 mg and 250 mg) to the EMLc - the addition of 250 mg/5mL strength oral liquid formulation to the EMLc - the addition of a note stating "the presence of both 120 mg/5 mL and 125mg/5mL oral liquid strengths on the same market would cause confusion in prescribing and dispensing and should be avoided"

