Paracetamol (acetaminophen)

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

EMLc ATC codes: N02BE01

Indication	Pain ICD11 code: MG3Z
INN	Paracetamol
Medicine type	Chemical agent
List type	Core
Additional notes	*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.
Formulations	**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
EML status history	First added in 1977 (TRS 615) Changed in 1979 (TRS 641) Changed in 1987 (TRS 770) Changed in 2007 (TRS 950) Changed in 2017 (TRS 1006) Changed in 2023 (TRS 1049)
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	Paracetamol (acetaminophen)
DrugBank	Paracetamol (Acetaminophen)

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 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"