

[Codeine](#)

Essential medicine status

Section:

[2. Medicines for pain and palliative care 2.2. Opioid analgesics](#)

ATC codes: Pending

Indication

Pain ICD11 code: [ML0Z](#)

Medicine type

Chemical agent

List type

Core

Formulations

Oral > Solid: 30 mg tablet (codeine phosphate)

EML status history

First added in 1984 ([TRS 722](#))

Sex

All

Age

Adolescents and adults

Therapeutic alternatives

The recommendation is for this specific medicine

Patent information

Patents have expired in most jurisdictions

Read more [about patents](#).

Wikipedia

[Codeine](#)

DrugBank

[Codeine](#)

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations



Codeine was added to the core list of the EML as an opioid analgesic in 1984 in addition to its original listings as an antitussive and antidiarrhoeal. A square box symbol was added to the analgesic listing in 1988 to accommodate alternative drugs. The square box was removed in 2003 following a review.