

[Chlorhexidine](#)

Essential medicine status

Section:

[15. Antiseptics and disinfectants 15.1. Antiseptics](#)

ATC codes: [D08AC02](#)

EMLc

Indication

Chlorhexidine ICD11 code: [XM7DZ3](#)

INN

Chlorhexidine

Medicine type

Chemical agent

List type

Core

Formulations

**Local > Topical > Solution:** 5% (digluconate) for dilution

EML status history

First added in 1979 ([TRS 641](#))

Changed in 2007 ([TRS 950](#))

Changed in 2009 ([TRS 958](#))

Changed in 2013 ([TRS 985](#))

Changed in 2021 ([TRS 1035](#))

Sex

All

Age

Also recommended for children

Therapeutic alternatives

Medicines within the same pharmacological class can be used

Therapeutic alternatives limitations

Therapeutic alternatives to be reviewed (2023)

Therapeutic alternatives limitations for EMLc

Therapeutic alternatives to be reviewed (2023)

Patent information

Patents have expired in most jurisdictions

Read more [about patents.](#)

Wikipedia

[Chlorhexidine](#)

DrugBank

[Chlorhexidine](#)

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

Following the review of square box listings on the EML and EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended the therapeutic alternatives for chlorhexidine be reviewed.