




Section: 20. Muscle relaxants (peripherally-acting) and cholinesterase inhibitors

		EMLc	ATC codes: N07AA01
Indication	Anticholinesterase reversible	ICD11 code: XM9D92	
INN	Neostigmine bromide		
Medicine type	Chemical agent		
List type	Core (EML) (EMLc)		
Formulations	Oral > Solid: 15 mg (neostigmine bromide) Parenteral > General injections > unspecified: 0.5 mg per mL in 1 mL ampoule (neostigmine metilsulfate) ; 2.5 mg per mL in 1 mL ampoule (neostigmine metilsulfate)		
EML status history	First added in 1977 (TRS 615) Changed in 1979 (TRS 641) Changed in 1989 (TRS 796) Changed in 2003 (TRS 920) Changed in 2007 (TRS 950)		
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	Neostigmine 		
DrugBank	Neostigmine 		

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

The EMLc Subcommittee noted that neostigmine metilsulfate injection was the preferred agent for the reversal of non-depolarising muscle block and endorsed neostigmine injection for inclusion in the EMLc. While neostigmine bromide tablets are licensed for use in infants and children for the treatment of myasthenia gravis, the Subcommittee noted that pyridostigmine has fewer cholinergic adverse effects and is now regarded as the first-line drug treatment for myasthenia gravis. The Subcommittee endorsed neostigmine (injection and tablet forms) and pyridostigmine (injection and tablet forms) for inclusion in the EMLc, with the latter retained in the Complementary List.

