

[Tetracaine](#)

Essential medicine status

Section:

[21. Ophthalmological preparations](#) [21.3. Ophthalmological preparations > Local anaesthetics](#)

ATC codes: [S01HA03](#)

EMLc

Indication

Local anaesthetics ICD11 code: [XM7Y85](#)

INN

Tetracaine

Medicine type

Chemical agent

List type

Core

Formulations

**Local > Ophthalmological > Solution (eye drops):** 0.5% (hydrochloride)

EML status history

First added in 1977 ([TRS 615](#))

Changed in 1979 ([TRS 641](#))

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

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

Sex

All

Age

Also recommended for children

Age restriction

Not in preterm neonates.

Therapeutic alternatives

Medicines within the same pharmacological class can be used

Therapeutic alternatives limitations

Therapeutic alternatives are medicines in the 4th level ATC chemical subgroup S01HA Local anaesthetics (excluding cocaine and combinations)

Therapeutic alternatives limitations for EMLc

Therapeutic alternatives are medicines in the 4th level ATC chemical subgroup S01HA Local anaesthetics (excluding cocaine and combinations)

Patent information

Patents have expired in most jurisdictions

Read more [about patents](#).

Wikipedia

[Tetracaine](#)

DrugBank

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Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

Following the review of square box listings on the EML and EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended that medicines in 4th level ATC chemical subgroup, S01HA Local anaesthetics (excluding cocaine and combinations), be specified as therapeutic alternatives under the square box listing for tetracaine on the EML and EMLc.