

Section: 3. Antiallergics and medicines used in anaphylaxis

		EMLc	ATC codes: H02AB02
Indication	Allergic or hypersensitivity conditions of unspecified type	ICD11 code: 4A8Z	
INN	Dexamethasone		
Medicine type	Chemical agent		
List type	Core (EML) (EMLc)		
Formulations	Parenteral > General injections > unspecified: 4 mg per mL in 1 mL ampoule (as disodium phosphate salt)		
EML status history	First added in 1984 (TRS 722) 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	Dexamethasone 		
DrugBank	Dexamethasone 		

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

The EMLc Subcommittee endorsed the inclusion of dexamethasone on the core list of the EMLc for severe allergic reactions. In consideration of the need for corticosteroids for allergic disorders in children, the EMLc Subcommittee noted that dexamethasone injection was licensed for use in allergic disorders in children in some countries and is also used for non-allergic disorders, such as cerebral oedema, croup, post-operative nausea and vomiting and in the treatment of bacterial meningitis. While recognizing the need for systemic steroids in severe allergic reactions, the Subcommittee noted that for conditions such as allergic rhinitis and conjunctivitis, topical steroids or topical antihistamines have been shown to be effective and safer.

