

[Acetylcysteine](#)

Essential medicine status

Section:

[4. Antidotes and other substances used in poisonings](#) [4.2. Antidotes and other substances used in poisonings > Specific](#)

ATC codes: [V03AB23](#)

EMLc

Indication

Exposure to or harmful effects of undetermined intent of analgesics, antipyretics or nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs ICD11 code: [PH44](#)

INN

Acetylcysteine

Medicine type

Chemical agent

List type

Core

Formulations

Parenteral > General injections > IV: 200 mg per mL in 10 mL ampoule

EML status history

First added in 1999 ([TRS 895](#))

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

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

Changed in 2025 ([TRS 1064](#))

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

[Acetylcysteine](#)

DrugBank

[Acetylcysteine](#)

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations



Following the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations of essential medicines for children, the Expert Committee recommended the removal from the EMLc of acetylcysteine oral liquid (10% and 20%), as it does not appear to be available and is not considered essential in the context of acute paracetamol overdose, when IV administration is preferred. The injection solution may be administered via an enteral tube if IV access is unavailable.