# Clarithromycin

Section: 6. Anti-infective medicines > 6.2. Antibacterials > 6.2.2. Watch group antibiotics

EMLc | ATC codes: J01FA09

| | |
|---|---|
| **Indication** | Acute pharyngitis ICD11 code: CA02 |
| **INN** | Clarithromycin |
| **Medicine type** | Chemical agent |
| **Antibiotic groups** | WATCH |
| **List type** | Core |
| **Additional notes** | The square box applies only to the listing of clarithromycin on the EMLc as second choice treatment for pharyngitis in children. |
| **Formulations** | **Oral > Liquid:** 125 mg per 5 mL powder for oral liquid ; 250 mg per 5 mL powder for oral liquid<br>**Parenteral > General injections > unspecified:** 500 mg in vial powder for injection<br>**Oral > Solid > dosage form:** 500 mg (EML) ; 250 mg (EMLc) |
| **EML status history** | First added in 2017 (TRS 1006)<br>Changed in 2021 (TRS 1035)<br>Changed in 2023 (TRS 1049) |
| **Sex** | All |
| **Age** | Also recommended for children |
| **Therapeutic alternatives** | erythromycin (ATC codes: J01FA01) |
| **Patent information** | Patents have expired in most jurisdictions<br>Read more about patents. |
| **Wikipedia** | Clarithromycin |
| **DrugBank** | Clarithromycin |

## Expert Committee recommendation

Following the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations on the EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended: - the addition of new formulations of amoxicillin (dispersible, scored tablet, 250 mg and 500 mg) to the EMLc. - the addition of new formulations of cefalexin (dispersible tablet 125 mg and 250 mg) to the EMLc. - the addition of a new strength formulation of clarithromycin (solid oral dosage form 250 mg) to the EMLc. - the deletion of clarithromycin 500 mg solid oral dosage form from the EMLc.

## EML recommendations: Acute pharyngitis

**First choice** | **Second choice**

**WATCHFUL WAITING, SYMPTOM RELIEF AND NO ANTIBIOTIC TREATMENT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS THE FIRST-LINE TREATMENT OPTION.**

phenoxymethylpenicillin

cefalexin

amoxicillin

clarithromycin

