# Codeine

NOT RECOMMENDED AS AN ESSENTIAL MEDICINE

Section: 25. Medicines acting on the respiratory tract > 25.2. Antitussives

ATC codes: R05DA04

| | |
|---|---|
| **Indication** | Cough ICD11 code: MD12 |
| **Medicine type** | Chemical agent |
| **List type** | Core |
| **Formulations** | **Oral > Solid:** 10 mg tablet (codeine phosphate) |
| **EML status history** | First added in 1977 (TRS 615)<br>Changed in 1979 (TRS 641)<br>Removed in 1997 (TRS 882) |
| **Sex** | All |
| **Age** | Adolescents and adults |
| **Therapeutic alternatives** | The recommendation is for this specific medicine |
| **Patent information** | Read more about patents. |
| **Wikipedia** | Codeine |
| **DrugBank** | Codeine |

## Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

Dextromethorphan oral solution replaced codeine on the EML as an antitussive, since it was more widely available and less likely to lead to abuse.

