### Metronidazole

**Essential medicine status**

**Indication**

Intestinal infections due to *Clostridioides difficile*

**ICD11 code:** 1A04

**ATC codes:**

- A01AB17

**INN**

Metronidazole

**Medicine type**

Chemical agent

**Antibiotic groups**

ACCESS

**List type**

Core (EML) (EMLc)

**Formulations**

- Oral > Liquid: 200 mg per 5 mL (as benzoate)
- Local > Rectal > Suppository: 500 mg (EML): 1 g (EML)
- Parenteral > General injections > unspecified: 500 mg per 100 mL in vial
- Oral > Solid > tablet: 200 mg; 250 mg; 400 mg; 500 mg

**EML status history**

- First added in 2017 (TRS 1006)
- Changed in 2023 (TRS 1049)

**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**

[Metronidazole](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metronidazole)

**DrugBank**

[Metronidazole](https://www.drugbank.ca/drugs/DB00805)

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**Expert Committee recommendation**

Following the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations on the EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended a note be added to the listing of oral vancomycin on the EML and EMLc to indicate that the powder for injection dosage form may also be used for oral administration. Following the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations on the EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended that the range of strengths of metronidazole tablets be replaced with reference to specific strengths on the EML and EMLc.

**EML recommendations: Intestinal infections due to *Clostridioides difficile***

- **First choice**
  - metronidazole

- **Second choice**
  - vancomycin