

Colistin (injection)

NOT RECOMMENDED AS AN
ESSENTIAL MEDICINE

Section: 6. Anti-infective medicines > 6.2. Antibacterials > 6.2.3. Reserve group antibiotics

		EMLc	ATC codes: J01XB01
Indication	Other specified bacterial diseases	ICD11 code: 1C4Y	
INN	Colistin		
Medicine type	Chemical agent		
Antibiotic groups	R RESERVE		
List type	Complementary (EML) (EMLc)		
Formulations	Parenteral > General injections > unspecified: 1 million IU in vial (as colistemethate sodium)		
EML status history	First added in 2017 (TRS 1006) Removed in 2019 (TRS 1021)		
Sex	All		
Age	Also recommended for children		
Therapeutic alternatives	The recommendation is for this specific medicine		
Patent information	Read more about patents.		
Wikipedia	Colistin (injection)		
DrugBank	Colistin		

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

As part of the review of the AWaRe classification and EML listing of antibiotics, the Expert Committee recommended selected Reserve group antibiotics be listed as individual medicines on the WHO Model Lists when they have a favourable benefit-risk profile and proven activity against "Critical Priority" or "High Priority" pathogens as identified by the WHO Priority pathogens list. Refer to the 2019 recommendations for new indications for colistin on the EML and EMLc.

[Expert Committee report](#)

