

Streptomycin (injection)



Essential medicine status ✓

Section: [6. Anti-infective medicines](#) > [6.2. Antibacterials](#) > [6.2.5. Antituberculosis medicines](#)

		EMLc	ATC codes: J01GA01
Indication	Multi-drug resistant Mycobacterium tuberculosis	ICD11 code: ML32.00	
INN	Streptomycin		
Medicine type	Gas		
Antibiotic groups	WATCH		
List type	Complementary (EML) (EMLc)		
Formulations	Parenteral > General injections > IV: 1 g powder for injection (as sulfate) as vial		
EML status history	First added in 1977 (TRS 615) Changed in 1979 (TRS 641) Changed in 2007 (TRS 950) Changed in 2009 (TRS 958) Changed in 2013 (TRS 985) Changed in 2017 (TRS 1006)		
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	Streptomycin (injection)		
DrugBank	Streptomycin		

Expert Committee recommendation

The Expert Committee recommended the deletion of streptomycin powder for injection from the core list of the EML as a first-line antituberculosis treatment option, noting the advice from the WHO TB department that it is no longer recommended as first-line treatment. The Committee noted that streptomycin remains in the Complementary List of the EML and EMLc for second-line use in multidrug-resistant (MDR-TB) tuberculosis.

Background

Streptomycin is currently included in the core list of the EML under Section 6.2.4 for first-line treatment of tuberculosis. It is also included in the Complementary List of the EML and EMLc as a reserve second-line drug for MDR-TB.

Public health relevance

Not provided

Benefits

In February 2017, the WHO Guidelines Review Committee approved the new WHO Guidelines for the treatment of drug-susceptible tuberculosis and patient care, 2017 update (in press at that time). The updated guidelines no longer recommend the use of streptomycin as a component of first-line antituberculosis therapy but reserve its use as a potential option in second-line

regimens for drug-resistant disease.

Harms

Not provided

Additional evidence

N/A

Cost / cost effectiveness

N/A

WHO guidelines

Refer to the summary for deletion of ofloxacin for recommendations regarding the use of streptomycin in MDR-TB and rifampicin-resistant (RR-TB) disease in current WHO guidelines.

Availability

N/A

Other considerations

The current listing of streptomycin on the Complementary List of the EML and EMLc as a reserve second-line drug for treatment of MDR-TB will be retained.

Implementation considerations

N/A

