Streptomycin (injection)

**Indication**
Multi-drug resistant Mycobacterium tuberculosis  
ICD11 code: ML32.00

**INN**
Streptomycin

**Medicine type**
Gas

**Antibiotic groups**
WATCH

**List type**
Complementary

**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

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**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.

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**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.

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**Public health relevance**

Not provided

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**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harms</th>
<th>Not provided</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additional evidence</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost / cost effectiveness</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHO guidelines</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Availability</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other considerations</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implementation considerations</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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