

# Streptomycin (injection)



Essential medicine status

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

		EMLc	ATC codes: <b>J01GA01</b>
Indication	Multi-drug resistant Mycobacterium tuberculosis	ICD11 code: <b>ML32.00</b>	
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 ( <a href="#">TRS 615</a> ) Changed in 1979 ( <a href="#">TRS 641</a> ) Changed in 2007 ( <a href="#">TRS 950</a> ) Changed in 2009 ( <a href="#">TRS 958</a> ) Changed in 2013 ( <a href="#">TRS 985</a> ) Changed in 2017 ( <a href="#">TRS 1006</a> )		
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 <a href="#">about patents</a> .		
Wikipedia	<a href="#">Streptomycin (injection)</a>		
DrugBank	<a href="#">Streptomycin</a>		

## 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

