

[Aciclovir](#)

Essential medicine status

Section:

[6. Anti-infective medicines](#) [6.4. Antiviral medicines](#) [6.4.1. Antiherpes medicines](#)

ATC codes: [J05AB01](#)

EMLc

Indication

Herpes simplex infections ICD11 code: [1F30.Z](#)

INN

Aciclovir

Medicine type

Chemical agent

List type

Core

Additional notes

The square box applies only to the listing of oral aciclovir on the EML.

Formulations

Parenteral > General injections > IV: 250 mg in vial powder for solution for infusion (as sodium dihydrate) ; 25 mg per mL in vial solution for infusion (as sodium)

Oral > Liquid: 200 mg per 5 mL (EMLc)

Oral > Solid: 200 mg tablet

EML status history

First added in 1997 ([TRS 882](#))

Changed in 2003 ([TRS 920](#))

Changed in 2007 ([TRS 950](#))

Changed in 2021 ([TRS 1035](#))

Changed in 2025 ([TRS 1064](#))

Sex

All

Age

Also recommended for children

Therapeutic alternatives

Medicines within the same pharmacological class can be used

Patent information

Patents have expired in most jurisdictions

Read more [about patents](#).

Wikipedia

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DrugBank

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Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

Following the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations of essential medicines for children, the Expert Committee recommended the addition of aciclovir solution for infusion 25 mg/mL, and changes to the description of aciclovir powder for injection to better reflect the product characteristics. The changes apply to the EML and EMLc.