### Aciclovir

**Section:** 6. Anti-infective medicines  ➤  6.4. Antiviral medicines  ➤  6.4.1. Antiherpes medicines

**ATC codes:** J05AB01

**Essential medicine status:** Yes

**Indication:** Zoster  
**ICD11 code:** 1E91.Z

**INN:** Aciclovir

**Medicine type:** Chemical agent

**List type:** Core

**Additional notes:** The square box does not apply to the listing of aciclovir on the EMLc

**Formulations:**
- Parenteral > General injections > IV: 250 mg in vial powder for injection (as sodium salt)
- 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)

**Sex:** All

**Age:** Also recommended for children

**Therapeutic alternatives:** valaciclovir (ATC codes: J05AB11)

**Patent information:** Patents have expired in most jurisdictions  
Read more about patents.

**Wikipedia:** Aciclovir

**DrugBank:** Aciclovir

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**Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations**

Aciclovir was noted to be licensed as the injection for use in children for varicella zoster infection. The Subcommittee endorsed the inclusion of the injection and tablet forms of aciclovir on the EMLc and added the oral liquid form (200 mg/5 ml) to the list.