Zidovudine

Section: 6. Anti-infective medicines > 6.4. Antiviral medicines > 6.4.2. Antiretrovirals > 6.4.2.1. Antiretrovirals > Nucleoside/Nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitors

EMLc | ATC codes: J05AF01

Indication	Human immunodeficiency virus disease without mention of tuberculosis or malaria, clinical stage unspecified ICD11 code: 1C62.Z
INN	Zidovudine
Medicine type	Chemical agent
List type	Core
Formulations	**Parenteral > General injections > IV:** 10 mg per mL in 20 mL vial solution for IV infusion (EML) **Oral > Liquid:** 50 mg per 5 mL **Oral > Solid > tablet:** 300 mg (EML) **Oral > Solid > capsule:** 250 mg (EML)
EML status history	First added in 1997 (TRS 882) Changed in 2002 (TRS 914) Changed in 2007 (TRS 950) Changed in 2015 (TRS 994) Changed in 2017 (TRS 1006) Changed in 2019 (TRS 1021)
Sex	All
Age	Also recommended for children
Weight restriction	> 3 kg
Therapeutic alternatives	The recommendation is for this specific medicine
Patent information	Patents have expired in most jurisdictions Read more about patents.
Wikipedia	Zidovudine
DrugBank	Zidovudine

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

The Committee recommended deletion of zidovudine 60 mg dispersible scored tablet from the EMLc, noting they are no longer included in the current WHO guidelines for paediatric HIV treatment, and that suitable alternatives are already included on the Model Lists and available for use. Zidovudine oral solution 50 mg/5mL remains included on the Model Lists for postnatal prophylaxis or neonatal use. Zidovudine in fixed-dose combination with nevirapine and/or lamivudine remains included on the Model Lists. Recommendations were made by the WHO HIV Department to delete the antiretroviral formulations from the EML and EMLc in order to achieve alignment between the 2018 WHO interim guidelines for antiretroviral regimens (1), and The 2018 optimal formulary and limited-use list for paediatric ARVs (2). Zidovudine (AZT) 60 mg dispersible scored tablet was removed from the latest limited-use list. Zidovudine 60 mg is available in dual fixed-dose combination formulations with lamivudine that can be combined with an abacavir 60 mg dispersible scored tablet to deliver a triple nucleoside regimen during TB treatment.

