**Suramin sodium**

**Indication** | African trypanosomiasis  
**INN** | Suramin sodium  
**Medicine type** | Chemical agent  
**List type** | Core (EML) (EMLc)  
**Additional notes** | To be used for the treatment of the initial phase of Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense infection.  
**Formulations** | Parenteral > General injections > IV: 1 g in vial  
**EML status history** | First added in 1977 (TRS 615)  
| Changed in 1979 (TRS 641)  
| Changed in 2007 (TRS 946)  
| Changed in 2007 (TRS 950)  
**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** | Suramin sodium  
**DrugBank** | Suramin sodium (Suramin)  

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**Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations**

The EMLc Subcommittee recommended that suramin sodium be endorsed for the EMLc for treatment of first-stage of Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense infections. The Subcommittee noted that African trypanosomiasis is a major public health problem in affected countries. Medicines available for treating this infection are limited. Hence despite the toxicity profile, these medicines are still used. There is a paucity of documented information specific to children and recommendations for adults are usually followed.