

Section: [6. Anti-infective medicines](#) > [6.5. Antiprotozoal medicines](#) > [6.5.5. Antitrypanosomal medicines](#) > [6.5.5.1. African trypanosomiasis](#) > [6.5.5.1.1. Medicines for the treatment of 1st stage African trypanosomiasis](#)

		EMLc	ATC codes: P01CX02
Indication	African trypanosomiasis	ICD11 code: 1F51	
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 <i>Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense</i> 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) 		

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.

