

Norethisterone

NOT RECOMMENDED AS AN
ESSENTIAL MEDICINE

Section: 22. Medicines for reproductive health and perinatal care > 22.1. Contraceptives > 22.1.1. Oral hormonal contraceptives

ATC codes: **G03AC01**

Indication Contact with health services for contraceptive management

ICD11 code: **QA21**

INN Norethisterone

Medicine type Chemical agent

List type Complementary

Formulations Oral > Solid: 350 µg

EML status history First added in 1979 ([TRS 641](#))
Changed in 1982 ([TRS 685](#))
Removed in 1995 ([TRS 867](#))

Sex Female

Age Adolescents and adults

Therapeutic alternatives Medicines within the same pharmacological class can be used

Patent information Patents have expired in most jurisdictions
Read more [about patents](#). 

Wikipedia [Norethisterone](#) 

DrugBank [Norethisterone](#) 

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

Levonorgestrel replaced norethisterone as the representative progesterone-only oral contraceptive as it is considered safer in breast-feeding mothers.

