

## [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.