

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.

