




# 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: <b>QA21</b>
INN	Norethisterone	
Medicine type	Chemical agent	
List type	Complementary	
Formulations	Oral > Solid: 350 µg	
EML status history	First added in 1979 ( <b>TRS 641</b> ) Changed in 1982 ( <b>TRS 685</b> ) Removed in 1995 ( <b>TRS 867</b> )	
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 <a href="#">about patents</a> . 	
Wikipedia	<a href="#">Norethisterone</a> 	
DrugBank	<a href="#">Norethisterone</a> 	

## 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.

