Valproic acid (sodium valproate)

Essential medicine status ✓

EMLc | ATC codes: N03AG01

Indication	Status epilepticus ICD11 code: 8A66
INN	Valproic acid
Medicine type	Chemical agent
List type	Complementary (EML) (EMLc)
Additional notes	Avoid use in pregnancy and in women and girls of child-bearing potential, unless alternative treatments are ineffective or not tolerated because of the high risk of birth defects and developmental disorders in children exposed to valproate in the womb.
Formulations	Parenteral > General injections > IV: 100 mg per mL in 4 mL ampoule ; 100 mg per mL in 10 mL ampoule ; 100 mg per mL in 3 mL ampoule
EML status history	First added in 2015 (TRS 994) Changed in 2021 (TRS 1035) Changed in 2023 (TRS 1049)
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	Valproic acid (sodium valproate)
DrugBank	Valproic acid

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

Following the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations on the EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended the inclusion of an additional vial size of valproic acid injection (100 mg/mL in 3 mL) on the EML and EMLc.