

WHO Model List of Essential Medicines

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WHO Model Lists of Essential Medicines

- First published in 1977, containing 208 medicines
- Introduced the idea that "some medicines are more important than others"
- Complemented in 2007 by the Model List of Essential Medicines for Children
- In 2023: 502 and 361 medicines on EML and EMLc, respectively
- Update growth rate: 3.6% per biennium
- Next update in May 2025



ML section	Model List of Essential Medicines	
Any -		
dication	Found \$312 recommendations for 635 medicines and 135 therapeutic equivalents Removed medicines and rejected applications are not shown. <u>Strant them</u>	
Indication	BCG vaccine	
rst added	Japanese encephalitis vaccine	
Any 👻	Medicines for COVID-19	•
rget population	Abacavir	
Any ·	Abacavir + lamivudine	-
	Abiraterone	-
Gancer (269)	Acamprosate calcium	-
Cancer supportive care (5)	Acetazolamide	-
Biological (126)	Acetic acid	
	Acetylcysteine	
Apply filter	Acetylsalicylic acid	-
	Acetylsalicylic acid + atorvastatin + ramipril	-





The WHO Model Lists

The primary purpose of the WHO Model Lists is to provide a blueprint for national authorities to adopt or adapt in accordance with local priorities and treatment guidelines for the development and updating of national EMLs.

Selection of Essentia

n Vitro Diagnostics at

Country Level

(World Health Organization

NUMBER OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EACH COUNTRY'S LIST AND THE WHO'S MODEL LIST OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES



https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/330898

(World Health

LECTION

OF ESSENTIAL

IEDICINES

AT COUNTRY LEVEL

BMJ Open Global status of essential medicine selection: a systematic comparison of national essential medicine lists with recommendations by WHO



3





Asymmetry



2 - 6 December 2024



Highlights from 2023 EML update

Cladribine, glatiramer acetate and rituximab for multiple sclerosis

Levetiracetam for focal-onset and generalized-onset seizures in adults in children

Ceftolozane + tazobactam as Reserve group antibiotic

Ravidasvir for hepatitis C

Monoclonal antibodies ansuvimab and atoltivimab + maftivimab + odesivimab for Ebola virus disease

Ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) for severe acute malnutrition

Polypill current square box listings for hydrochlorothiazide, antihypertensives and statins

Donezipil for dementia due to Alzheimer disease

(limited benefit)

Risdiplam for spinal muscular atrophy (immature data, high price)

GLP-1 for obesity (immature data, variable price)

PD-1/PD-L1 immune checkpoint inhibitors for nonsmall-cell lung cancer (high price, feasibility)

Cyclin-dependent kinase 4/6 inhibitors hormone receptor positive/HER2-negative advanced or metastatic breast cancer (immature data, high price)

CD-19-directed antigen receptor (CAR) T-cells for B-cell lymphoma (immature data, high price)

Osimertinib for EGFR-mutated non-small-cell lung cancer (immature data, high price, alternatives listed)

2025 EML update

- Application period closed on **1 November 2024**
- Applications to be published on the WHO website for comments on **1 February 2025**
- Meeting of the Expert Committee on Selection and Use of Essential Medicines from **5-9 May 2025**
- Release of updated EML in July/August 2025
 - (implications of EML recommendations for future EDL updates communicated to EDL Secretariat)



Essential medicines as a global resource or concept: is it gaining momentum?

knowing that multifaceted contextualised methods are needed to implement recommendations. Such strategies

Box 1 The Wise List concept²⁰

- The Wise List ('Kloka Listan' in Swedish) was developed for the whole Stockholm Healthcare Region in 2000 (the name 'Wise List' was launched in 2001)
- Includes around 200 recommended core medicines for the treatment of common diseases in primary and hospital care
- Includes 100 complementary medicines for common disease in specialised care (since 2007)
 Covers 24 therapeutic areas
- Bis a pocket-sized booklet and also available in a web-version
 Respected experts and clinicians together with clinical pharmacologists, pharmacists and nurses agree on recommendations based on review of scientific evidence using transparent criteria, including cost-effectiveness evaluation
- b Is a joint effort across disciplines and institutions and includes a policy for conflict of interest with annually renewed declarations. This policy contains rules and regulations for definitions of conflict of interest and how to handle them²⁵
- Includes non-pharmacological advice for several therapeutic areas. For some therapeutic areas, there are stepwise recommendations linked to disease severity and concomitant diseases.
- The Wise List also includes around 10 Wise piece of advice' (short, focused messages) selected yearly to improve certain pharmacotherapeutic practices for which there are potential for improvement in quality of medicine use, for example, 'Do not treat uncomplicated acute branchitis with antibiotics'
- The Wise List is communicated through a comprehensive communication, branding and marketing strategy with experts in a key role and integrated with a programme for continuous medical education¹⁵⁻¹⁶ (Box 2)



Box 2 The Stockholm model for wise use of medicines

Eriksen J, et al. BMJ Open 2017;7:e014345. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2016-014345

Wise List 2001•

Concept implemented through Drug and • Therapeutic Committees Attention to appropriate use of medicines, • including antibiotics, since inception



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H.R.8479 - Essential Medicines Strategic Stockpile Act of 2020				
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There is one version of the bill.				
Base New Hard State Stat				
The manufacture of the provides for endergoines the secure that all Assentance have access to generic drugs proposes.	at risk of skortage, and for other			
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Ocrosses 1, 2003				
Mr. Correst of Georgia (for himself and Mr. Eurory Recrements) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee of	n Energy and Commerce			
ABILL				
To around the Public Health Service Act to provide the steeliptiles to sense that all American have access to generic desp purpose.	at risk of shortage, and for other			
Be it emeried by the Senate and Hence of Representations of the United States of America in Compress assembled.				
SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.				
This het may be clied as the "Roomial Medicines Strategic Stockpile Act of 3020".				
SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM ON ENSURING MEDICATION SUPPLY STABILITY.				

Bipartisan Essential Medicines Strategic • Stockpile Act

... would require the Department of • Health and Human Services to establish a list of 50 generic medications that are essential in public health emergencies, the same way the U.S. has a reserve of oil for energy-related emergencies.



Continue engaging with willing provinces and territories towards • **national universal pharmacare**, while proceeding with a national strategy on high-cost drugs for rare diseases and advancing the establishment of the Canada Drug Agency.

Updating the WHO Model Lists

committees

BASIC DOCUMENTS

Forty-ninth edition 2020

World Health Organization

https://apps.who.int/gb/bd/

Governance Regulations for expert advisory panels and committees Rules of procedure for expert

Reported as part of WHO's

Technical Report Series

Procedures

 Revised in 2001 and endorsed by the Executive Board (EB109/8) WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION EXECUTIVE BOARD EBI 10th Session Provisional agenda liem 3.6

WHO medicines strategy

Revised procedure for updating WHO's Model List of Essential Drug

Report by the Secretariat

In 1075, the Twenry-eight World Health Assembly requested the Director General to assist thereby states by "abouting on the selection and procernment, at reasonable cost of essential drugs of stabilished quarky corresponding to their national builth needs" (resolutions WHA266). The first, her Thury-fuence and the selection of the transformation of th

Narrows studies have documented the impact of clinical guidelines and lists of essential solicings on the availability and proper use of medicume within health care systems.¹ Careful suggestion of medicume studies results in a higher quality of care, better suggestion of medicuments and an analysis of the studies o

Most countries require that a pharmeoutical product be approved on the basis of efficiency, free and quality before it can be prescribed. In addition, the mojestity of health acces and imazance hemes cover any the costs of medicines on a selected list. The medicines on such lists are solected are a study of the medicines used to rear particular conditions, and a comparisot of the value they are in relation to their cost. The WHO Model List of Essential Medicines is an example of such a list.

WHO Technical Report Series, No. 615, 1977.

https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB10 9/eeb1098.pdf The medicines landscape is becoming increasingly complex

The application process focused on single medicines makes it difficult to get a holistic picture especially in areas without dedicated WHO technical teams / guidelines

Many medicines included on the Model Lists do not have corresponding WHO guidelines covering their use

The quality of the applications is varying, some applications are incomplete and / or contain misleading information

The role of the EML regarding products that are not classic medicines

The role of the Model Lists in public health emergencies needs to better defined



Thank you

For more information, please contact:

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