



COOK ISLANDS ESSENTIAL MEDICINES LIST OCTOBER 2024

INTRODUCTION

Medicines listed in the Cook Islands Essential Medicines List (EML) have been approved by the Cook Islands Ministry of Health Drug and Therapeutics Committee for use in Ministry of Health hospitals, clinics and pharmacies in the Cook Islands.

1.1 POLICY

Only medicines listed in the EML are recommended for use and are available in the Ministry of Health pharmacies and hospitals.

For medicines not listed on the EML practitioners have the following options:

- changing to an EML-listed alternative
- provide a prescription to enable the patient to purchase their supply from a community pharmacy

Where there is an ongoing requirement for a non-EML medicine, and an EML-alternative is not available, prescribers may apply for a 'named patient' supply by completing the "Special Request for the Supply of a non-EML Medicine for an Individual Patient" form available for download from the Ministry of Health website at <http://www.health.gov.ck/clientsconsumers/essential-medicines-list/>.

The appropriate sections of the form should be completed by the requesting prescriber and then forwarded to the Chief Pharmacist for further completion and consideration by a Standing Committee of the Drug and Therapeutics Committee. Patients approved for a 'named patient' supply are able to have prescriptions for their medicine filled at their nominated Ministry of Health Pharmacy, once a supply of stock has been obtained (2-3 weeks).

There are also some medicines listed in the EML that are only available on a 'named patient' and/or designated prescriber basis.

Prescribers can request the addition to, or removal of a medicine from the EML by using the "Request for the addition of a Medicine to the Essential Medicines List" form on the Ministry's website (<http://www.health.gov.ck/clientsconsumers/essential-medicines-list/>). This should be forwarded to the Chief Pharmacist for consideration at the next Drug and Therapeutics Committee meeting.

1.2 PRESENTATION

Items listed in the document are listed alphabetically in each section, in the following presentation:

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
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1.3 INDEXING

The indexing system of the WHO EML has been maintained for ease of updating and comparison. Medicines listed under different headings are approved and recommended for use for that condition.

Individual medicine entries can be located using the Index at the back of the document, or by hovering over the section heading in the Table of Contents and using Ctrl+Click to go to that section, or by searching using the "CtrlF" function. Note that individual medicines may appear under more than one category.

1.4 SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THIS EDITION

This edition is updated to include the approved changes:

- Include tenofovir in Section [6.4.1](#)
- Update anti-HIV medicines in section [6.4.3](#)
- Include place in therapy guidance for metronidazole infusion in Section [6.5.1](#)
- Include human coagulation factors in Section [10.2](#)
- Include rivaroxaban in Section [12.5.3](#)
- Include place in therapy guidance for parenteral omeprazole in Section [17.1](#)
- Update H. pylori eradication treatment to align with antibiotic guidelines in Section [17.1](#)
- Remove biphasic insulin (no longer available) in Section [18.4](#)
- Remove Specialist restriction for empagliflozin in Section [18.4](#)
- Include medicinal cannabis in Section [32.2](#)

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1 ANAESTHETICS

1.1 GENERAL ANAESTHETICS AND OXYGEN

1.1.1 INHALATIONAL ANAESTHETICS AND MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Isoflurane	Liquid for inhalation	250mL	
Sevoflurane	Liquid for inhalation	250mL	
Nitrous oxide	Gas for inhalation		
Oxygen	Gas for inhalation (OXYGEN "G" SIZE Gas 1)		
Soda lime (sodium hydroxide)	Granules		

1.1.2 INJECTABLE ANAESTHETICS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Ketamine	Injection	500mg/10mL	
Propofol	Injection	200mg/20mL	
Thiopental	Injection	1g	Theatre or ED

1.2 LOCAL ANAESTHETICS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Bupivacaine	Injection	0.5%, 20mL	
	Spinal (heavy) injection	0.5%, 4mL	
Ethyl chloride	Spray	100mL	
Lidocaine	Injection	2%, 5mL	
	Gel, urethral syringe	2%, 10mL	For male catheterisation
	Spray	10%, 50mL	Theatre
Lidocaine + adrenaline (epinephrine)	Dental cartridge	1% + 1:100,000, 5mL, 2% + 1:80,000, 2.2mL	
Lidocaine + prilocaine	Cream	2.5% + 2.5%	EMLA®

1.3 PREOPERATIVE MEDICINES AND SEDATION FOR SHORT TERM PROCEDURES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Midazolam	Injection	15mg/3mL	
Morphine	Injection	10mg/1mL	Controlled Drug
Fentanyl	Injection	100mcg/2mL	Controlled Drug
Atropine	Injection	600mcg/1mL or 1mg/1mL	

2 ANALGESICS AND MEDICINES FOR PALLIATIVE CARE

2.1 NON-OPIOID ANALGESICS AND NON-STEROIDAL ANTIINFLAMMATORY MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Amitriptyline	Tablets	10mg, 25mg	
Ibuprofen	Oral liquid	100mg/5mL	
	Tablets	200mg	
Diclofenac	Injection	75mg/3mL	
	Suppositories	25mg, 50mg, 100mg	
	Tablets, enteric coated	50mg	
	Tablets, modified release	75mg	
Gabapentin	Capsules	300mg	Second line for neuropathic pain, when another agent isn't suitable
Mefenamic acid	Capsules	250mg	Dysmenorrhoea or menorrhagia
Naproxen	Tablets	250mg	
Paracetamol	Oral liquid	120mg/5mL, 250mg/5mL	
	Suppositories	125mg, 250mg, 500mg	
	Tablets	500mg	

2.2 OPIOID ANALGESICS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Codeine	Tablets	30mg	Controlled Drug
Fentanyl	Injection	100mcg/2mL	Controlled Drug
	Nasal spray	50mcg/mL	Controlled Drug, pharmacy compounded item
	Transdermal patch	12.5mcg/hr, 25mcg/hr, 50mcg/hr	Controlled Drug
Morphine	Injection	10mg/1mL	Controlled Drug
	Oral liquid	2mg/1mL	
	Tablets or capsules, modified release	10mg, 30mg	
	Tablets, immediate release	10mg	
Tramadol	Capsules	50mg	
	Injection	100mg/2mL	

2.3 MEDICINES FOR OTHER COMMON SYMPTOMS IN PALLIATIVE CARE

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Amitriptyline	Tablets	10mg, 25mg	
Dexamethasone	Injection	4mg/1mL	
	Tablets	4mg	
Diazepam	Injection	10mg/2mL	May be used rectally
	Tablets	5mg	
Docusate + sennosides	Tablets	50mg + 8mg	
Fluoxetine	Capsules	20mg	
Haloperidol	Injection	5mg/1mL	
	Tablets	500mcg, 5mg	
Hyoscine butylbromide	Injection	20mg/1mL	
Lactulose	Oral liquid	10g/15mL	
Loperamide	Tablets or capsules	2mg	
Metoclopramide	Injection	10mg/2mL	
	Tablets	10mg	
Midazolam	Nasal spray	5mg/mL	Pharmacy compounded item
	Injection	15mg/3mL	
Ondansetron	Injection	4mg/2mL	
	Tablets, orodispersible	4mg	

3 ANTIALLERGIC MEDICINES AND MEDICINES FOR ANAPHYLAXIS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Adrenaline (epinephrine)	Injection	1mg/1mL	
Dexamethasone	Injection	4mg/1mL	
Hydrocortisone	Injection	100mg	
Loratadine	Tablets	10mg	
Promethazine	Tablets	10mg, 25mg	
	Oral liquid	5mg/5mL	
	Injection	50mg/2mL	
Prednisolone	Oral liquid	5mg/1mL	Paediatric patients
Prednisone	Tablets	1mg, 5mg, 20mg	

4 ANTIDOTES AND MEDICINES FOR POISONING

4.1 NON-SPECIFIC ANTIDOTES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Charcoal, activated	Oral liquid	200mg/1mL	

4.2 SPECIFIC ANTIDOTES

For dosing recommendations see TOXINZ website (<http://www.toxinz.com/>)

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Acetylcysteine	Injection	2g/10mL	Paracetamol poisoning
Atropine	Injection	600mcg/1mL	Organophosphate poisoning
Calcium gluconate	Injection	1g/10mL (10%)	Potassium, magnesium, or calcium channel blocker(CCB) poisoning
Desferrioxamine (deferoxamine)	injection	500mg	Iron poisoning
Naloxone	Injection	400mcg/1mL	Opioid poisoning
Phytomenadione	Injection	2mg/0.2mL, 10mg/1mL	Warfarin poisoning Vitamin K Injection solution may be used orally

5 ANTICONVULSANTS AND ANTIPILEPTICS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Carbamazepine	Oral liquid	100mg/5mL	
	Tablets, modified release	200mg	
Diazepam	Injection	10mg/2mL	May be used rectally
Levetiracetam	Injection	500mg/5mL	
	Oral liquid	100mg/mL	
	Tablets	500mg, 750mg, 1000mg	
Magnesium sulfate	Injection	49.3%, 5mL	For eclampsia and severe pre-eclampsia
Midazolam	Injection	15mg/3mL	May be used buccally or intranasally
Phenobarbitone	Injection	200mg/1mL	Controlled Drug
	Tablets	30mg	
Phenytoin	Capsules	30mg, 100mg	
	Injection	250mg/5mL	
	Oral liquid	30mg/5mL	
Sodium valproate	Oral liquid	200mg/5mL	
	Tablets, enteric coated	200mg, 500mg	

6 ANTIINFECTIVE MEDICINES

6.1 ANTHELMINTICS

6.1.1 INTESTINAL ANTHELMINTICS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Albendazole	Tablets, chewable	400mg	

6.1.2 ANTIFILARIAL MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Albendazole	Tablets, chewable	400mg	
Diethylcarbamazine	Tablets	50mg	

6.2 ANTIBACTERIALS

6.2.1 BETA-LACTAM MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Amoxicillin	Capsules	250mg, 500mg	
	Injection	1g	
	Oral liquid	250mg/5mL	
Amoxicillin + clavulanic acid	Injection	1g + 200mg	
	Oral liquid	250mg + 62.5mg/5mL	
	Tablets	500mg + 125mg	
Benzathine penicillin	Injection	1.2 MU (900mg)	For rheumatic heart disease prevention or syphilis
Benzylpenicillin	Injection	600mg	
Cefalexin	Capsules	500mg	
	Oral Liquid	250mg/5mL	
Cefazolin	Injection	1g	For surgical prophylaxis
Cefotaxime	Injection	500mg	Restricted, contact Pharmacist
Ceftazidime	Injection	1g	Restricted, contact Pharmacist
Ceftriaxone	Injection	1g	
Flucloxacillin	Capsules	250mg, 500mg	
	Oral liquid	250mg/5mL	
	Injection	1g	
Meropenem	Injection	1g	Restricted, contact Pharmacist
Phenoxymethylpenicillin	Capsules	250mg	

6.2.1.1 Beta-lactam adjunct

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Probenecid	Tablets	500mg	

6.2.2 OTHER ANTIBACTERIALS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Azithromycin	Oral liquid	200mg/5mL	
	Tablets	500mg	
Ciprofloxacin	Tablets	500mg	
Clindamycin	Capsules	150mg	
	Injection	600mg/4mL	
Doxycycline	Tablets	100mg	
Erythromycin	Injection	1g	
Gentamicin	Injection	80mg/2mL	
Metronidazole	Infusion	500mg/100mL	
	Tablets	200mg, 400mg	
Nitrofurantoin	Tablets	100mg	
Rifampicin	Capsules	150mg, 300mg	
	Oral liquid	100mg/5mL	
Co-trimoxazole (trimethoprim + sulfamethoxazole)	Oral liquid	40mg + 200mg/5mL	
	Tablets	80mg + 400mg	
Trimethoprim	Tablets	300mg	
Vancomycin	Injection	500mg	

6.2.3 ANTILEPROSY MEDICINES (IN COMBINATION)

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Clofazimine	Capsules	100mg	Ordered on request from WHO
Dapsone	Tablets	100mg	Ordered on request
Rifampicin	Capsules	150mg, 300mg	

6.2.4 ANTITUBERCULOSIS MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Ethambutol	Tablets	400mg	
Isoniazid	Tablets	100mg	
Pyrazinamide	Tablets	500mg	
Pyridoxine	Tablets	25mg	To prevent isoniazid neuropathy
Rifampicin	Capsules	150mg, 300mg	
	Oral liquid	100mg/5mL	

6.3 ANTIFUNGAL MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Clotrimazole	Cream	1%	
	Vaginal cream	1%	
	Vaginal tablet	500mg	
Fluconazole	Capsules	50mg	
Nystatin	Oral liquid	100,000IU/1mL	
Terbinafine	Tablets	250mg	

6.4 ANTIVIRAL MEDICINES

6.4.1 ANTIHEPATITIS MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Tenofovir	Tablets	300mg	Hepatitis B

6.4.2 ANTIHERPES MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Aciclovir	Injection	250mg/10mL	
	Tablets, dispersible	200mg, 800mg	

6.4.3 ANTI-HIV MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Dolutegravir + Lamivudine + Tenofovir	Tablets	50mg + 300mg + 300mg	For Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP). Contact Chief Medical Officer in the first instance. Treatment regimens ordered on request on the recommendation of a Specialist

6.5 ANTIPROTOZOAL MEDICINES

6.5.1 ANTIAMOEBIAC AND ANTIGIARDIASIS MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Metronidazole	Infusion	500mg/100mL	Only when tablets cannot be used
	Tablets	200mg, 400mg	

6.5.2 ANTIMALARIAL MEDICINES

6.5.2.1 Malaria curative treatment

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Doxycycline	Tablets	100mg	

6.5.2.2 Malaria prophylaxis

Check the CDC website (www.cdc.gov/malaria/travelers/country_table/a.html) for country-specific recommendations

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Doxycycline	Tablets	100mg	Available to government employees travelling on government business

6.5.3 ANTIPNEUMOCYSTOSIS (PCP) AND ANTITOXOPLASMOSIS MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Co-trimoxazole (trimethoprim + sulfamethoxazole)	Oral liquid	40mg + 200mg/5mL	
	Tablets	80mg + 400mg	

7 ANTIMIGRAINE MEDICINES

7.1 TREATMENT OF ACUTE MIGRAINE ATTACK

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Aspirin	Tablets	300mg	
Ibuprofen	Tablets	200mg	
Paracetamol	Oral liquid	120mg/5mL, 250mg/5mL	
	Tablets	500mg	
Sumatriptan	Tablets	50mg	Not in patients with ischaemic cardiovascular disease

7.2 MIGRAINE PROPHYLAXIS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Metoprolol	Tablets, modified release	23.75mg, 47.5mg, 95mg	

8 ANTINEOPLASTICS AND IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVES

8.1 IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Hydroxychloroquine	Tablets	200mg	Prescribed by Medicine Department Doctors, or on the recommendation of a Specialist
Methotrexate	Tablets	2.5mg	Prescribed weekly by Medicine Department Doctors Use with weekly folic acid 5mg taken on a different day to the methotrexate (see 8.2 below) Monthly FBC, LFTs

8.2 CYTOTOXIC AND ADJUVANT MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Folic acid	Tablets	5mg	As an adjuvant to weekly methotrexate Use weekly on a different day to the methotrexate (see 8.1 above)

8.3 HORMONES AND ANTIHORMONES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Goserelin	Injection	3.6mg, 10.8mg	On the recommendation of Dr Deacon, or an overseas Specialist
Tamoxifen	Tablets	20mg	On the recommendation of Dr Deacon, or an overseas Specialist

9 ANTIPARKINSON'S MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Benzotropine	Injection	1mg/1mL	
	Tablets	2mg	
Levodopa + carbidopa	Tablets	100mg + 25mg, 250mg + 25mg	

10 BLOOD MODIFYING MEDICINES

10.1 ANTIANAEMIA MEDICINES

Generally, only one form of iron tablets will be stocked at one time, either ferrous fumarate OR ferrous sulphate, with or without folic acid.

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Ferrous fumarate	Tablets	200mg	Equivalent to 65mg elemental iron
Ferrous fumarate + folic acid	Tablets	310mg + 0.35mg	Equivalent to 100mg elemental iron
Ferrous sulfate	Oral liquid	150mg/5mL	Equivalent to 30mg/5mL elemental iron
	Tablets	200mg	Equivalent to 65mg elemental iron
Ferrous sulphate + folic acid	Tablets	200mg + 0.4mg	Equivalent to 65mg elemental iron
Folic acid	Tablets	5mg	
Hydroxocobalamin	Injection	1mg/mL	
Iron (ferrous) polymaltose	Injection	100mg/2mL	

10.2 MEDICINES AFFECTING COAGULATION

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Coagulation factors, human	Injection	500IU	For reversal of rivaroxaban anticoagulation e.g. Prothrombinex-VF®
Enoxaparin	Injection	40mg/0.4mL, 100mg/1mL	
Phytomenadione	Injection	2mg/0.2mL, 10mg/1mL	Vitamin K For reversal of warfarin anticoagulation. Injection solution may be used orally
Rivaroxaban	Tablets	10mg, 15mg, 20mg	
Tranexamic acid	Injection	1g/10mL	
	Tablets	500mg	
Warfarin	Tablets	1mg, 5mg	

10.3 OTHER MEDICINES FOR HAEMOGLOBINOPATHIES

On the recommendation of a Specialist. Ordered on request.

11 BLOOD PRODUCTS AND PLASMA SUBSTITUTES

11.1 PLASMA SUBSTITUTES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Succinylated gelatine	Infusion	4%	e.g. Gelofusine®

12 CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINES

12.1 ANTIANGINAL MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Amlodipine	Tablets	2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg	
Diltiazem	Capsules, modified release	180mg	
Felodipine	Tablets, modified release	2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg	
Glyceryl trinitrate	Sublingual spray	400mcg	
Isosorbide mononitrate	Tablets, modified release	60mg	
Metoprolol	Injection	5mg/5mL	
	Tablets, modified release	23.75mg, 47.5mg, 95mg	

12.2 ANTIARRHYTHMIC MEDICINES AND MEDICINES FOR CARDIAC ARREST

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Adenosine	Injection	6mg/2mL	
Adrenaline (epinephrine)	Injection	1:1000, 1mL	
Amiodarone	Injection	150mg/3mL	
	Tablets	200mg	
Digoxin	Injection	500mcg/2mL	
	Tablets	62.5mcg, 250mcg	
Isoprenaline	Injection	0.2mg/mL	Medical doctors in the management of sustained bradycardia
Lidocaine	Injection	100mg/5mL	
Metoprolol	Injection	5mg/5mL	
	Tablets	23.75mg, 47.5mg, 95mg	
Verapamil	Injection	5mg/2mL	

12.3 ANTIHYPERTENSIVE MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Amlodipine	Tablets, modified release	2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg	
Atenolol	Tablets	50mg	
Bendroflumethiazide	Tablets	2.5mg	Bendrofluazide
Candesartan	Tablets	8mg, 16mg	Patients unable to tolerate ACE inhibitors
Clonidine	Injection	150mcg	Theatre & HDU
Diltiazem	Capsules, modified release	180mg	
Doxazosin	Tablets	2mg	
Enalapril	Tablets	5mg, 10mg, 20mg	
Felodipine	Tablets, modified release	2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg	
Hydralazine	Injection	20mg	
	Tablets	25mg	
Labetalol	Injection	25mg/5mL	
	Tablets	50mg or 100mg	
Methyldopa	Tablets	250mg	
Metoprolol	Tablets, modified release	23.75mg, 47.5mg, 95mg	

12.4 MEDICINES USED IN HEART FAILURE

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Bendroflumethiazide	Tablets	2.5mg	Bendrofluazide
Candesartan	Tablets	8mg, 16mg	Patients unable to tolerate ACE inhibitors
Digoxin	Tablets	62.5mcg, 250mcg	
Dopamine	Injection	200mg/5mL	
Enalapril	Tablets	5mg, 10mg, 20mg	
Furosemide	Injection	20mg/2mL	
	Tablets	40mg	
Metoprolol	Tablets, modified release	23.75mg, 47.5mg, 95mg	
Sacubitril/valsartan	Tablets	24/26mg, 49/51mg, 97/103mg	On the recommendation of a Specialist e.g. Entresto®
Spironolactone	Tablets	25mg	

12.5 MEDICINES FOR ACUTE CORONARY SYNDROMES INCLUDING UNSTABLE ANGINA AND MYOCARDIAL INFARCTIONS

12.5.1 ANTIPLATELET AGENTS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Aspirin	Tablets, enteric coated	100mg	
	Tablets, dispersible	300mg	
Clopidogrel	Tablets	75mg	

12.5.2 THROMBOLYTICS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Tenecteplase	Injection	50mg	

12.5.3 ANTICOAGULANTS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Enoxaparin	Injection	40mg/0.4mL, 100mg/1mL	

12.6 LIPID LOWERING AGENTS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Atorvastatin	Tablets	20mg, 40mg	
Bezafibrate	Tablets, modified release	400mg	
Simvastatin	Tablets	20mg	

12.7 ANTIHYPOTENSIVE MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Ephedrine	Injection	30mg/1mL	Controlled Drug
Metaraminol	Injection	10mg/mL	
Noradrenaline	Injection	4mg/4mL	

13 DERMATOLOGICAL MEDICINES

13.1 TOPICAL ANTIFUNGAL MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Clotrimazole	Cream	1%	

13.2 TOPICAL ANTIINFECTIVE MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Microdacyn®	Hydrogel	60g	
	Solution	250mL	
Povidone-iodine	Ointment	10%	1% available iodine
Silver sulfadiazine	Cream	1%	For burns; for children ≥2 months old

13.3 TOPICAL ANTIINFLAMMATORY AND ANTIPRURITIC MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Calamine	Lotion		
Hydrocortisone (base or acetate)	Cream	1%	
Mometasone	Cream	0.1%	

13.4 MEDICINES AFFECTING SKIN DIFFERENTIATION AND PROLIFERATION

Not provided by Ministry of Health pharmacies or pharmacy warehouse. Approval for named-patient supply required.

13.5 SCABICIDES AND PEDICULICIDES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Permethrin	Lotion	1%	
Ivermectin	Tablets	3mg	On the recommendation of a Specialist; ordered on request

13.6 EMOLLIENTS AND BARRIER PREPARATIONS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Cetomacrogol aqueous cream + glycerol	Lotion	90% + 10%	Sorbolene

14 DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS

14.1 OPHTHALMIC PREPARATIONS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Fluorescein sodium	Strips	0.6mg	
Tetracaine	Eye drops	0.5%, 1%	Minims (single use) Also known as amethocaine

14.2 RADIOCONTRAST MEDIA AND DIAGNOSTICS

Contact Radiology

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Ultrasound	Gel	250mL, 5L	

15 DISINFECTANTS AND ANTISEPTICS

15.1 ANTISEPTICS FOR USE ON SKIN

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Chlorine	Solution for dilution	0.1% available chlorine	Bleach. See antibiotic guidelines for products and dilution directions
Povidone iodine	Ointment	10%	1% available iodine
	Solution		

15.2 DISINFECTANTS

15.2.1 FOR INSTRUMENTS AND SURFACES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Ethanol	Solution	70%	
	Wipes		
<i>ortho</i> -Phthalaldehyde	Solution	0.55%	e.g. Cidex®

15.2.2 SKIN PREPARATIONS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Isopropyl alcohol	Skin wipes	70%	Prescriptions not required

16 DIURETICS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Bendroflumethiazide	Tablets	2.5mg	Bendrofluazide
Furosemide	Injection	20mg/2mL	
	Tablets	40mg	
Mannitol	Infusion	20%	
Spironolactone	Tablets	25mg	

17 GASTROINTESTINAL MEDICINES

17.1 ANTIULCER MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Aluminium hydroxide + magnesium hydroxide+ simethicone	Tablets	400mg + 400mg + 40mg	Mylanta Double Strength®
Omeprazole	Capsules	20mg	
	Infusion or injection	40mg	Only when capsules cannot be used
Omeprazole+ amoxicillin + azithromycin	Capsules and tablets	20mg + 500mg + 500mg	H. pylori eradication
Sodium alginate + sodium bicarbonate + calcium carbonate	Oral Liquid	500mg + 267mg + 160mg/10mL	Acidex®

17.2 ANTIEMETIC MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Dexamethasone	Injection	4mg/1mL	
	Tablets	4mg	
Metoclopramide	Injection	10mg/2mL	
	Tablets	10mg	
Ondansetron	Injection	4mg/2mL	
	Tablets, orodispersible	4mg	
Prochlorperazine	Injection	12.5mg	Intramuscular use
	Suppositories	25mg	
	Tablets	5mg	

17.3 GASTROINTESTINAL ANTIINFLAMMATORY MEDICINES

Not provided by Ministry of Health pharmacies or pharmacy warehouse. Approval for named-patient supply required.

17.4 LAXATIVES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Bisacodyl	Suppositories	10mg	Brands include Dulcolax® and Lax-Tab®
	Tablets	5mg	
Docusate + sennosides	Tablets	50mg + 8mg	Brands include Coloxyl With Senna® and Laxsol®
Glycoprep Orange: macrogol-3350 + sodium chloride + potassium chloride + sodium sulfate Picoprep Orange: sodium picosulfate + magnesium carbonate hydrate + citric acid	Powder sachets	Glycoprep-C: 52.9g + 2.6g + 740mg + 5.6g/70g PicoPrep: 10.3mg + 7.4g + 12.2g/20g	Prepkit-Orange® For bowel cleansing prior to surgical procedures. Each box contains one Glycoprep Orange sachet and two Picoprep Orange sachets. Contains Stevia®
Lactulose	Syrup	10mg/15mL	
Macrogol-3350 + potassium chloride + sodium bicarbonate + sodium chloride	Powder sachet	13.12g + 46.6mg + 178.5mg + 350.7mg/13.8 g	Movicol® for faecal impaction
Sodium citrate + sodium lauryl sulfoacetate + sorbitol	Enema	450mg + 45mg + 3.125mg/5mL	Microlax®

17.5 MEDICINES USED IN DIARRHOEA

17.5.1 ORAL REHYDRATION

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Oral rehydration salts	Powder sachet		Enerlyte®

17.5.2 MEDICINES FOR DIARRHOEA IN CHILDREN

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Zinc sulfate	Dispersible tablets	20mg	Recommended by WHO for use with oral rehydration

17.5.3 GASTROINTESTINAL ANTIMOTILITY AGENTS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Loperamide	Capsules or tablets	2mg	Not for use in a child under 12 years

17.6 TREATMENT FOR HAEMORRHOIDS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Cinchocaine + fluocortolone esters	Rectal ointment	0.5% + 0.187%	Ultraproct®
	Suppositories	1mg + 1.24mg	

17.7 GASTROINTESTINAL ANTISPASMODIC MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Hyoscine butylbromide	Injection	20mg/1mL	
	Tablets	10mg	

18 HORMONES, ENDOCRINE AND CONTRACEPTIVE

18.1 ADRENAL HORMONES AND SYNTHETIC SUBSTITUTES

Not provided by Ministry of Health pharmacies or pharmacy warehouse. Approval for named-patient supply required.

18.2 ANDROGENS

Not provided by Ministry of Health pharmacies or pharmacy warehouse. Approval for named-patient supply required.

18.3 CONTRACEPTIVES

18.3.1 ORAL HORMONAL CONTRACEPTIVES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Levonorgestrel + ethinylloestradiol + ferrous fumarate	Tablets	150mcg + 30mcg + 75mg	e.g. Microgynon ED® e.g. Levlen ED® without ferrous fumarate
Levonorgestrel	Tablets	30mcg	e.g. Microlut®
		1.5mg	Emergency contraception

18.3.2 INJECTABLE HORMONAL CONTRACEPTIVES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Medroxyprogesterone acetate	Depot injection	150mg/1mL	e.g. Depo-Provera®

18.3.3 INTRAUTERINE DEVICES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Copper T 380A	Intrauterine device		

18.3.4 BARRIER METHODS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Male condoms			

18.3.5 IMPLANTABLE CONTRACEPTIVES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Levonorgestrel	Subdermal implant	75mg/rod	Pack of two rods

18.4 INSULINS AND OTHER MEDICINES USED FOR DIABETES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Empagliflozin	Tablets	10mg, 25mg	
Gliclazide	Tablets	80mg	
Glucagon	Injection	1mg/1mL	
Glucose	Oral gel, sachet or tube	15g	Maternity or Ambulance
Insulin, isophane	Injection	1000IU/10mL (100IU/1mL)	Medium-acting
Insulin, neutral	Injection	1000IU/10mL (100IU/1mL)	Short-acting
Metformin	Tablets	500mg, 850mg	

18.5 OESTROGENS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Conjugated oestrogens	Tablets	0.3mg, 0.625mg	Premarin®
Ethinylestradiol	Tablets	10mcg	Gynaecology
Oestriol	Vaginal cream	0.1%	

18.6 OVULATION INDUCERS

Not provided by Ministry of Health pharmacies or pharmacy warehouse. Approval for named-patient supply required.

18.7 PROGESTOGENS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Norethisterone	Tablets	5mg	

18.8 THYROID HORMONES AND ANTITHYROID MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Levothyroxine	Tablets	50mcg, 100mcg	
Carbimazole	Tablets	5mg	

19 IMMUNOLOGICAL PREPARATIONS

19.1 DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Tuberculin, purified protein derivative	Injection		PPD Contact Laboratory

19.2 SERA AND IMMUNOGLOBULIN

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Immunoglobulin RHO (anti-D)	Injection	250IU	
Hepatitis B immunoglobulin	Injection	100IU/1mL	

19.3 VACCINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
BCG	Injection		
Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis	Injection		DTP
Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B, haemophilus influenza type b	Injection		Pentavalent
Hepatitis B	Injection		
Human papillomavirus	Injection		HPV, 2-valent
Influenza	Injection		
Measles, mumps, rubella	Injection		MMR
Poliomyelitis	Injection		IPV
	Oral drops		OPV
Tetanus, diphtheria toxoids	Injection		Td booster

20 MUSCLE RELAXANTS

20.1 MUSCLE RELAXANTS FOR USE IN SURGERY

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Atracurium	Injection	50mg/5mL	
Neostigmine	Injection	2.5mg/1mL	
Rocuronium	Injection	4mg/2mL	
Suxamethonium	Injection	100mg/2mL	

20.2 OTHER MUSCLE RELAXANTS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Orphenadrine citrate	Tablets	100mg	Surgeon prescription

21 OPHTHALMOLOGICAL PREPARATIONS

21.1 ANTIINFECTIVE AGENTS FOR THE EYE

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Aciclovir	Eye ointment	3%	
Chloramphenicol	Eye drops	0.5%	
	Eye ointment	1%	
Tobramycin	Eye drops	0.3%	May be used in the ear

21.2 ANTIINFLAMMATORY AGENTS FOR THE EYE

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Dexamethasone	Eye drops	0.1%	Eye Doctor/Nurse Practitioner prescription

21.3 LOCAL ANAESTHETICS FOR THE EYE

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Tetracaine	Eye drops	0.5%	Minims (single use) Also known as amethocaine

21.4 LUBRICANTS FOR THE EYE

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Lanolin + liquid paraffin	Eye ointment	3% + 3%	HDU or Theatre

21.5 MIOTICS AND ANTIGLAUCOMA MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Pilocarpine	Eye drops	1%	
Timolol	Eye drops	0.25%	

21.6 MYDRIATICS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Atropine	Eye drops	1%	Not for use in a child under 3 months
Tropicamide	Eye drops	0.5%	For use in a child under 3 months

22 OXYTOCICS AND ANTIOXYTOCICS

22.1 OXYTOCICS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Carboprost	Injection	250mcg/1mL	
Misoprostol	Tablets	200mcg	
Oxytocin	Injection	10IU/1mL	
Oxytocin + ergometrine	Injection	5IU + 0.5mg/1mL	

22.2 ANTIOXYTOCICS (TOCOLYTICS)

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Nifedipine	Tablets, modified release	20mg	Initial doses should be chewed before swallowing for rapid onset
Glyceryl trinitrate	Sublingual spray	400mcg/puff	
Salbutamol	Injection	5mg/5mL	For infusion

23 PERITONEAL DIALYSIS SOLUTION

Not provided by Ministry of Health pharmacies or pharmacy warehouse. Approval for named-patient supply required.

24 MEDICINES FOR PSYCHIATRIC AND BEHAVIOURAL DISORDERS

24.1 MEDICINES USED IN PSYCHOTIC DISORDERS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Haloperidol	Injection	5mg/1mL	
	Injection, depot	50mg/1mL	
	Tablets	0.5mg, 5mg	
Olanzapine	Tablets	10mg	
Risperidone	Tablets	1mg, 2mg, 4mg	

24.2 MEDICINES USED IN MOOD DISORDERS

24.2.1 MEDICINES USED IN DEPRESSIVE DISORDERS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Amitriptyline	Tablets	25mg	
Fluoxetine	Capsules	20mg	
Paroxetine	Tablets	20mg	

24.2.2 MEDICINES USED IN BIPOLAR DISORDERS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Lithium carbonate	Tablets	250mg	
Sodium valproate	Tablets, enteric coated	200mg, 500mg	

24.3 MEDICINES FOR ANXIETY DISORDERS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Diazepam	Tablets	5mg	

24.4 MEDICINES USED FOR OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDERS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Fluoxetine	Capsules	20mg	

24.5 MEDICINES FOR DISORDERS DUE TO PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE USE

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Nicotine	Chewing gum	2mg, 4mg	
	Lozenges	1mg, 2mg	
	Transdermal patch	7mg/24hours, 14mg/24hours, 21mg/24hours	

24.6 MEDICINES FOR ADHD

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Methylphenidate	Tablets	5mg, 10mg, 20mg	Controlled Drug Mental Health or Paediatric Doctor prescription
	Tablets, modified release	20mg	

24.7 HYPNOTICS

Not provided by Ministry of Health pharmacies or pharmacy warehouse. Approval for named-patient supply required.

25 RESPIRATORY TRACT MEDICINES

25.1 ANTI-ASTHMA AND MEDICINES FOR CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Adrenaline (epinephrine)	Injection	1mg/1mL	
Aminophylline	Injection	250mg/10mL	
Beclometasone	Metered dose inhaler	50mcg/puff, 100mcg/puff, 250mcg/puff	
Budesonide + eformoterol	Metered dose inhaler	100mcg + 6mcg/puff, 200mcg + 6mcg/puff	e.g. Vannair®
Ipratropium	Metered dose inhaler	20mcg/puff	
	Nebules	500mcg/2mL	
Ipratropium + salbutamol	Metered dose inhaler	20mcg + 100mcg/puff	
	Nebules	500mcg + 2.5mg/2.5mL	
Salbutamol	Injection	5mg/5mL	For infusion
	Metered dose inhaler	100mcg/puff	
	Nebules	5mg/2.5mL	
Tiotropium	Capsules for inhalation	18mcg	For use with Handihaler®

26 ELECTROLYTE AND FLUID BALANCE PREPARATIONS

26.1 ORAL PREPARATIONS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Oral rehydration salts	Powder sachet	Various	Enerlyte®
Potassium chloride	SR tablets	600mg	
Sodium bicarbonate	Capsules	840mg	Chronic metabolic acidosis only
Sodium polystyrene sulfate	Powder	999.3mg/g	Resonium A®

26.2 PARENTERAL SOLUTIONS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Compound sodium lactate: sodium lactate + sodium chloride + potassium chloride + calcium chloride dihydrate	Infusion	0.322% + 0.6% + 0.04% + 0.027%, 100mL	Hartmann's solution
Glucose	Infusion	5%, 1000mL	Isotonic
		10%, 500mL	Hypertonic
	Injection	50%, 10mL	
Glucose + sodium chloride	Infusion	4.3% + 0.18%, 1000mL	Bart's solution
Potassium chloride	Injection	7.5%, 10mL	Must be diluted prior to use
		22.5%, 20mL	
Sodium bicarbonate	Injection	8.4%, 10mL	
Sodium chloride	Injection	0.9%, 10mL	
	Infusion	0.9%, 1000mL	
	Infusion	3%, 1000mL	Hypertonic

26.3 MISCELLANEOUS SOLUTIONS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Water	Injection	10mL	Diluent

27 VITAMINS AND MINERAL PREPARATIONS

Generally, only one form of calcium injection will be stocked at one time, either calcium gluconate, OR if that is not available, calcium chloride.

Generally, only one form of iron tablets will be stocked at one time, either ferrous fumarate OR ferrous sulphate, with or without folic acid.

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Calcium carbonate	Tablets	1250mg	500mg elemental calcium
Calcium gluconate	Injection	1000mg/10mL (10%)	Contains calcium 89mg/10mL
Calcium chloride	Injection	1000mg/10mL (10%)	Contains calcium 273mg/10mL
Ferrous fumarate	Tablets	200mg	Equivalent to 65mg elemental iron
Ferrous fumarate + folic acid	Tablets	310mg + 0.35mg	Equivalent to 100mg elemental iron
Ferrous sulfate	Oral liquid	150mg/5mL	Equivalent to 30mg/5mL elemental iron
	Tablets	200mg	Equivalent to 65mg elemental iron
Ferrous sulphate + folic acid	Tablets	200mg + 0.4mg	Equivalent to 65mg elemental iron
Folic acid	Tablets	5mg	
Hydroxocobalamin	Injection	1mg/1mL	Vitamin B12
Iron (ferrous) polymaltose	Injection	100mg/2mL	
Multivitamins: ascorbic acid + cholecalciferol + nicotinamide + retinol + riboflavin + thiamine	Tablets	15mg + 7.5mcg + 7.5mg + 860mcg + 500mcg + 1.234mg	
Pyridoxine	Tablet	25mg	Vitamin B6
Thiamine	Injection	200mg/2mL	Vitamin B1
	Tablet	50mg	

28 EAR, NOSE AND THROAT MEDICINES

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Ciprofloxacin + hydrocortisone	Ear drops	0.2% + 1%	
Docusate	Ear drops	0.5%	e.g. Waxsol® brand
Flumetasone + clioquinol	Ear drops	0.02% + 1%	Locorten-Vioform®
Tobramycin	Eye drops	0.3%	May be used in the ear
Xylometazoline	Nasal spray	0.5%, 1%	

29 NEONATAL CARE MEDICINES

29.1 MEDICINES ADMINISTERED TO THE NEONATE (NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINES)

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Glucose	Oral gel, sachet or tube	15g	Maternity or Ambulance

29.2 MEDICINES ADMINISTERED TO THE MOTHER

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Betamethasone acetate + betamethasone sodium phosphate	Injection	3mg/1mL + 3.9mg/1mL	
Bromocriptine	Tablets	2.5mg	
Dexamethasone	Injection	4mg/1mL	

30 RHEUMATOLOGY MEDICINES

See also 8.1 Immunosuppressive medicines for disease modifying treatments for rheumatoid arthritis

30.1 MEDICINES USED TO TREAT GOUT

30.1.1 MEDICINES FOR ACUTE GOUT

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Colchicine	Tablets	0.5mg	Maximum of 12 tablets per course. Minimum 3 days between courses.
Diclofenac	Injection	75mg/3mL	
	Tablets, enteric coated	50mg	
	Tablets, modified release	75mg	
Ibuprofen	Tablets	200mg	
Naproxen	Tablets	250mg	
Prednisone	Tablets	20mg	

30.1.2 MEDICINE FOR GOUT PROPHYLAXIS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Allopurinol	Tablets	100mg, 300mg	
Probenecid	Tablets	500mg	

31 MEDICINES FOR URINARY TRACT CONDITIONS

31.1 URINARY ALKALINISATION

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Sodium citrate + citric acid + sodium bicarbonate + tartaric acid	Powder sachet	630mg + 720mg + 1.76g + 890mg per 4g sachet	e.g. Ural®

31.2 BENIGN PROSTATIC HYPERTROPHY

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Doxazosin	Tablets	2mg	
Finasteride	Tablets	5mg	Surgeon prescription

31.3 URINARY INCONTINENCE

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Oxybutynin	Tablets	5mg	

32 MISCELLANEOUS

32.1 LUBRICANTS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Liquid paraffin	Sterile oil	5g per tube	Surgeon use for skin grafting
Lubricating jelly	Gel		
ECG electrode jelly	Gel		

32.2 MEDICINAL CANNABIS

MEDICINE	FORM	STRENGTH/SIZE	NOTES
Cannabidiol	Oral oil	25mg/mL	e.g. Helius CBD25 Full Spectrum
		100mg/mL	e.g. Helius CBD100 Full Spectrum
Tetrahydrocannabinol + cannabidiol	Oral oil	THC 5mg/mL + CBD 20mg/mL	e.g. Tilray FS Oral Solution THC5:CBD20
		THC 10mg/mL + CBD 10mg/mL	e.g. Helius THC10:CBD10 Full Spectrum
		THC 10mg/mL + CBD 1mg/mL	e.g. evalaCann THC 10mg:CBD 1mg

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