

# Standard Treatment Guidelines & Essential Medicines List



National Department of Health

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Affordable Medicines Directorate:  
Essential Drugs Programme

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Overview of updated PHC and Adult Hospital  
Level Standard Treatment Guidelines and  
Essential Medicine List



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# 2020-4 Review Cycle



## Adult Hospital Level

Chapters published = 9

Chapters under review = 10

## Primary Healthcare Level

Chapters published = 10

Chapters under review = 11



- The review cycle started in 2020, with the existing PDF still available on the NHI & Knowledge Hub platforms
- For the new edition (2024), individual chapters are published and replace the corresponding chapter in the previous edition



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# 2020-4 Review Cycle – Primary Healthcare Level Published Chapters



<u>Chapter Number</u>	<u>Chapter Name</u>
CH 1	Dental & Oral Conditions
CH 2	Gastrointestinal Conditions
CH 3	Nutrition & Anaemia
CH 6 (Updated Nov 2023)	Obstetrics & Gynaecology
CH 7	Family Planning
CH 10 (Updated Jan 2024)	Infections & related conditions
CH 11	HIV & AIDS
CH 13 (Updated Aug 24)	Immunisation
CH 16	Mental Health Conditions
CH 21	Emergencies and injuries



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# 2020-4 Review Cycle – Adult Hospital Level Published Chapters



<u>Chapter Number</u>	<u>Chapter Name</u>
CH 1	Alimentary Tract
CH 6	Obstetrics
CH 9	Systemic & Healthcare Associated Infections
CH 19	HIV & AIDS
CH 15	Mental Health Conditions & Substance Misuse
CH 16	Respiratory Disorders
CH 19	Poisoning
CH 20	Emergencies and injuries
CH 23	Adult Critical Care



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# Webinar Series – Completed Sessions



**Session 1:** Health Technology Assessment (HTA)

**Topics covered:** HTA international experience, Overview of the NEMLC process, Evidence to Decision Methodology

**Date:** 25 June 2024



**Session 2:** Mental Health Conditions

**Topics covered:** Aggressive Disruptive Behaviour, Opioid Substitution Therapy Pilot Program

**Date:** 16 July 2024



**Session 3:** Obstetrics & Gynaecology

**Topics covered:** Post Partum Haemorrhage, Family Planning, Maternal Mortality

**Date:** 30 July 2024



**Session 4:** Critical Care

**Topics Covered:** Critical Care chapter development (replacement of previous Sedation chapter)

**Date:** 13 August 2024

**\*\*NB: More sessions to follow throughout 2024**



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# Webinar Series – Upcoming Sessions



**Session 5:** Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

**Presenters:** Dr Jeremy Nel, Dr Ruth Lancaster

**Topics covered:** Malaria prophylaxis, Tick-bite fever, Urinary tract infections, AMR surveillance report etc.

**Date:** 27 August 2024



**Session 6:** Emergencies and Injuries, Poisons

**Presenters:** Prof Clint Hendrikse, Dr Kate Balme

**Topics covered:** Supplemental Analgesia, Delirium, Pulmonary oedema etc.

**Date:** 17 September 2024



**Session 7:** Cardiovascular

**Topics covered:** TBC

**Presenters:** TBC

**Date:** 01 October 2024

***\*\*NB: More sessions to follow throughout 2024***



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# Access to the PHC/AHL STGs & EML & Individual Chapters



- NHI Webpage: <https://www.health.gov.za/nhi-edp-stgs-eml>
- Knowledge Hub **eLibrary**: [www.knowledgehub.health.gov.za/e-library](http://www.knowledgehub.health.gov.za/e-library)
- EMGuidance Mobile & Desktop Application: <http://onelink.to/sy896k>

**\*\*NB: Updated chapters are released as finalised and replace the corresponding chapter in the previous edition.**

Got Questions?  
SAEDP@health.gov.za



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# Resources



## STGs and EML (Individual Chapters and PDF) and Related Technical Documents

- NHI Webpage: <https://www.health.gov.za/nhi-edp-stgs-eml>
- Knowledge Hub **eLibrary**: [www.knowledgehub.health.gov.za/e-library](http://www.knowledgehub.health.gov.za/e-library)
- EMGuidance Mobile & Desktop Application: <http://onelink.to/sy896k>
- NEMLC Bulletins – circulated after each NEMLC meeting
- Circulars
- All queries to be submitted to [SAEDP@health.gov.za](mailto:SAEDP@health.gov.za)  
(or email team directly)

## Webinars

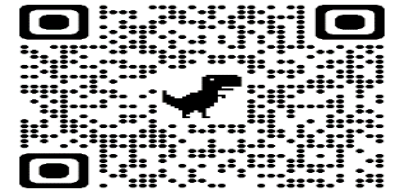
Knowledge Hub: <https://knowledgehub.health.gov.za/webinars>





## Guide on how to access the Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines List and related technical documents on Knowledge Hub

Scan Here

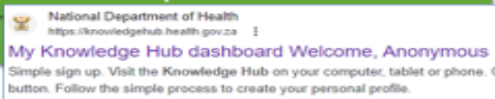


OR

1. Google "Knowledge Hub"



2. Click on the link that comes up



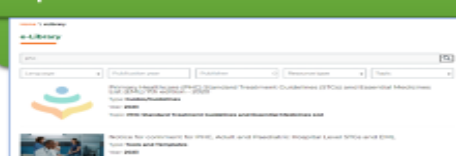
3. This will take you to the home page



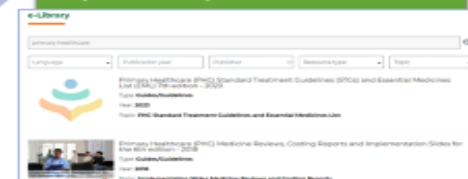
4. Click on eLibrary to come to this page:



5. Type in keyword: e.g. "phc"



6. Another option is "primary healthcare"



Other keywords that you can use:  
'hospital level'; 'paediatric'; 'adult'; 'tertiary';  
'notice for comment'





## What else is available on KnowledgeHub?

Medicine reviews and costing reports for each of the STGs / EML



example



The National Essential Medicines List Committee 2021-2024

- NEMLC Members
- Governance documents
- Therapeutic interchange policy
- NEMLC Bulletins

Circulars from the Affordable Medicines Directorate



example



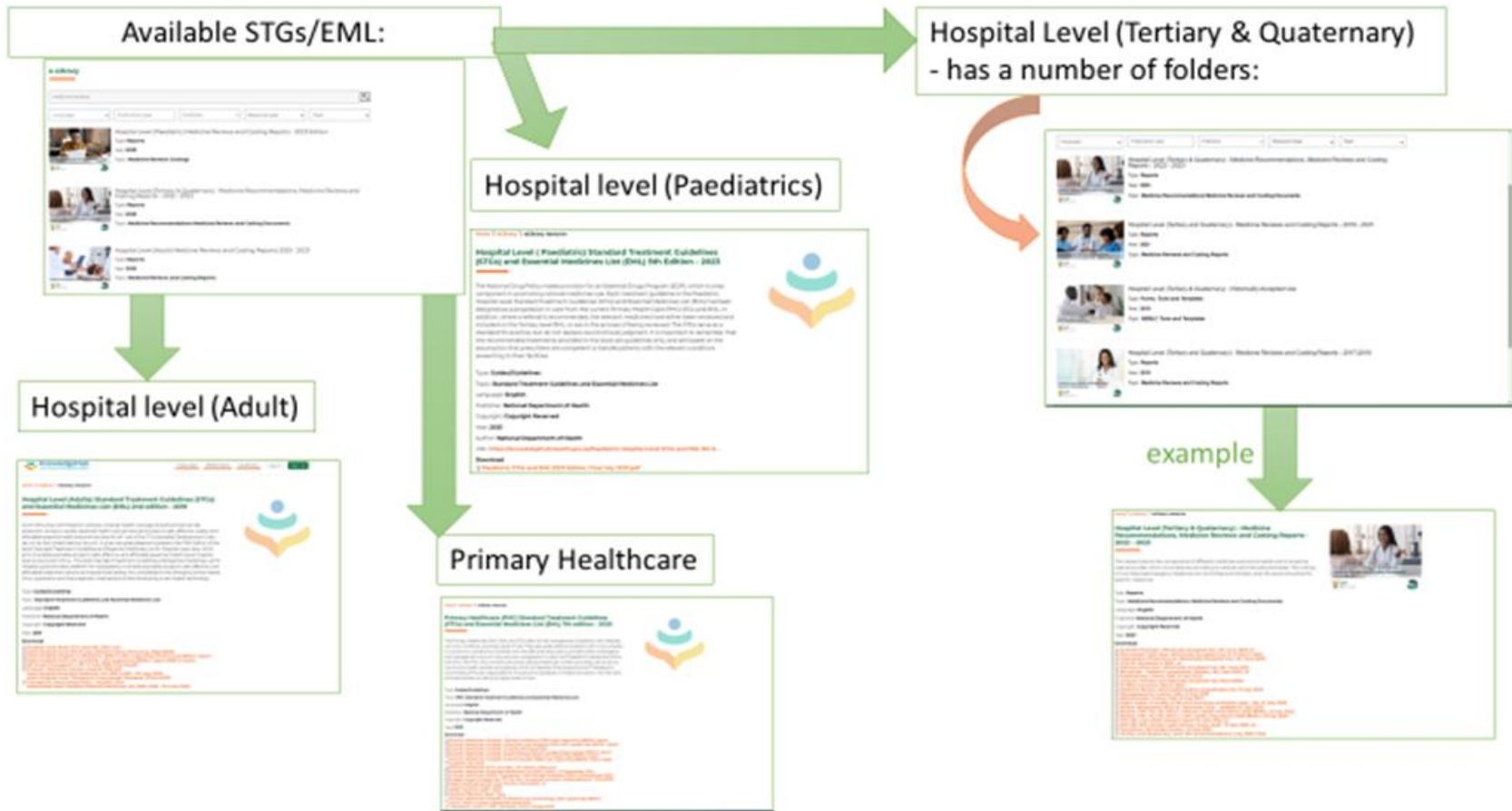
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# How the STGs/EML are presented on KnowledgeHub



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# NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

Access to the health services you need, when and where you need them, without financial hardship

## Essential Drugs Programme

The Essential Drug Programme (EDP) was established in terms of the National Drug Policy within the Affordable Medicines Directorate (AMD). The aim of the Essential Drug Programme is to ensure that *affordable, good quality essential medicines are available at all times in adequate amounts, in appropriate dosage forms, to all citizens.*



Development and implementation of the Standard Treatment Guidelines (STG's) and Essential Medicines List (EML) of South Africa  
Joint National Essential Medicines List Committee (NEMLC).

...medicines deemed to satisfy the priority health care needs of the population.

The STG's provides guidance to health care professionals on the use of medicines which appear on the EML. It consists of a collection of chapters containing disorder groups, background information on the disorder, treatment regimens, as well as other relevant information.

Click here for all information relating to

- PHC STGs & EML
- AHL STGs & EML
- Paediatric Hospital level STGs & EML
- Tertiary & Quaternary level EML

Click here for

- Circulars
- NEMLC bulletins
- Webinars, Presentations & Campaigns

Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines List

Communication



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**NB\*\*The NHI website only has information and updates from January 2024**







## Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines List (STGs and EML)

South Africa has committed to “achieve Universal Health Coverage including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all”, one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals set out by the United Nations. Therefore, an Essential Medicines List (**EML**) with supporting Standard Treatment Guidelines (**STGs**) has been developed, for different levels of care.

The respective STGs and EML for primary healthcare and hospital levels (adults and paediatrics), and the EML for tertiary level of care are described below. The STGs and EML satisfies the priority needs of the South African population, provided for by the National Drug Policy of 1996 and is based on the WHO EML concept of evidence-medicine principles of comparative efficacy, safety, and affordability. Developed and maintained by the ministerially appointed National Essential Medicines List Committee (**NEMLC**), Technical Expert Review Sub-Committees of NEMLC and the Essential Drugs Programme from the Affordable Medicines Directorate of the National Department of Health (**NDoH**).

The rationale for inclusion or exclusion of a medicine to the EML is described in NEMLC evidence reports, medicine reviews and costing analyses.

The therapeutic interchange database lists therapeutic alternatives for medicines listed on the respective EML.

Primary  
Healthcare

Hospital Level -  
Paediatrics

Hospital Level -  
Adults

Hospital Level - Tertiary And  
Quaternary

Governance &  
Policies



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Click on the relevant tab for access updates to the  
STGs & EML for each level of care



# Status of Chapters Index



**COMING  
SOON**

- An index is being developed which will be published on the website showing the **status of chapters** for the PHC & Adult Hospital Level STGs & EML 2020-4 edition.
- The table will direct the reader to the **current version of the chapter (with links)**, the **review status as well as supporting circulars and technical documents (with links)** corresponding to that chapter.
- Example of the PHC table displayed below.

Chapter number	Chapter Name	Current version in use		Current Status	Supporting Circulars 2023/4	Supporting Technical Documents
		NHI Website	Knowledge Hub Website			
1	Dental and Oral Conditions	<a href="#">2020-4</a>	<a href="#">2020-4</a>	Published		<a href="#">Primary-Healthcare-Chapter-1-Dental-conditions_2020-3_with-supporting-NEMLC-report.pdf</a>



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