

Standard Treatment Guidelines & Essential Medicines List



National Department of Health



Affordable Medicines Directorate:
Essential Drugs Programme



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 = 17

Chapters under review = 1

Primary Healthcare Level

Chapters published = 18

Chapters under review = 1



- 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 4	Cardiovascular Conditions
CH 5	Skin Conditions
CH 6 (Updated July 2024)	Obstetrics & Gynaecology
CH 7	Family Planning
CH 8	Kidney and Urological Disorders
CH 10 (Updated Jan 2025)	Infections & related conditions
CH 11 (Updated December 2024)	HIV & AIDS
CH 13 (Updated Jan 25)	Immunisation
CH 16	Mental Health Conditions
CH 17	Respiratory Conditions
CH 18	Eye Conditions
CH 20	Pain
CH 21 (Updated Oct 24)	Emergencies and injuries
CH 22	Medicines used in Palliative Care
CH 23	Standard Paediatric Dosing Tables

2020-4 Review Cycle – Adult Hospital Level Published Chapters



<u>Chapter Number</u>	<u>Chapter Name</u>
CH 1	Alimentary Tract
CH 2	Blood and Blood Forming Organs
CH 3	Cardiovascular System
CH 4	Dermatology
CH 5	Gynaecology
CH 6 (Updated 8 May 2024)	Obstetrics
CH 7	Nephrological/Urological Disorders
CH 9 (Updated January 2025)	Systemic & Healthcare Associated Infections
CH 10 (Updated Decemer 2024)	HIV & AIDS
CH 15	Mental Health Conditions & Substance Misuse
CH 16	Respiratory Disorders
CH 18	Eye Disorders
CH 19	Poisoning
CH 20	Emergencies and injuries
CH 23	Adult Critical Care
CH 24	Medicines used in Palliative Care
CH 25	Pain

Webinar Series – 2024/2025



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



Session 5: Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Presenters: Dr Jeremy Nel, Dr Ruth Lancaster

Topics Covered: Malaria Prophylaxis, Tick-bite fever, UTIs, AMR Surveillance report

Date: 27 August 2024



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Webinar Series – 2024/2025



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: HIV and AIDS

Topics covered: Updates to the HIV and AIDS STGs and EML

Presenters: Dr Jeremy Nel

Date: 29 October 2024



Session 8: Blood and Blood Forming Organs, Haemophilia

Topics Covered: Updates to the BBFO and Haemophilia STGs and EML

Presenters: Dr Gayle Tatz, Dr Andy Gray

Date: 26 November 2024



Session 9: Cardiovascular Conditions

Topic Covered: Updates to the Cardiovascular conditions STGs and EML

Presenters: Prof N Tsabedze

Date: 11 February 2025



****NB: More sessions to follow in 2025**



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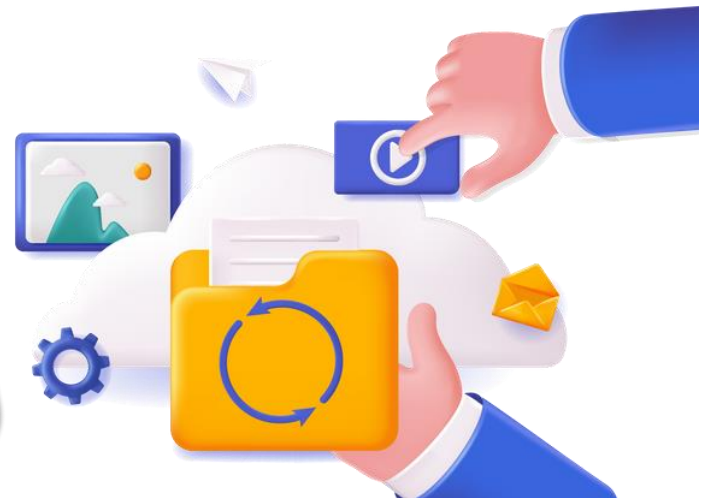
Access to the PHC/AHL STGs & EML & Individual Chapters



- NHI Webpage: <https://www.health.gov.za/nhi-edp-stgs-eml>
- Knowledge Hub **eLibrary**: www.knowledgehub.health.gov.za/e-library
- 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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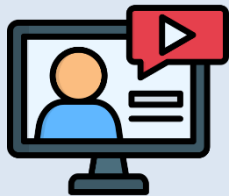


Resources



STGs and EML 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
- 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
(or email team directly)



Webinars

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



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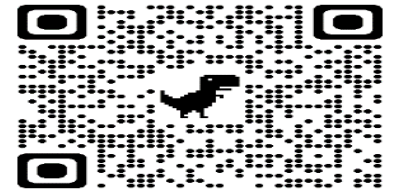
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Guide on how to access the Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines List and related technical documents on Knowledge Hub

Scan Here

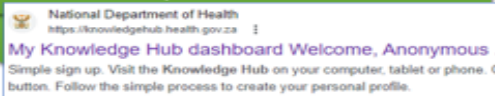


OR

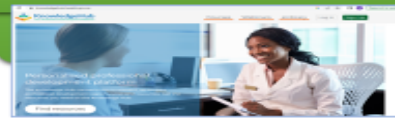
1. Google "Knowledge Hub"



2. Click on the link that comes up



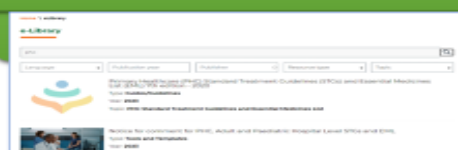
3. This will take you to the home page



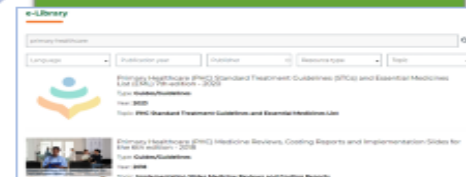
4. Click on eLibrary to come to this page:



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



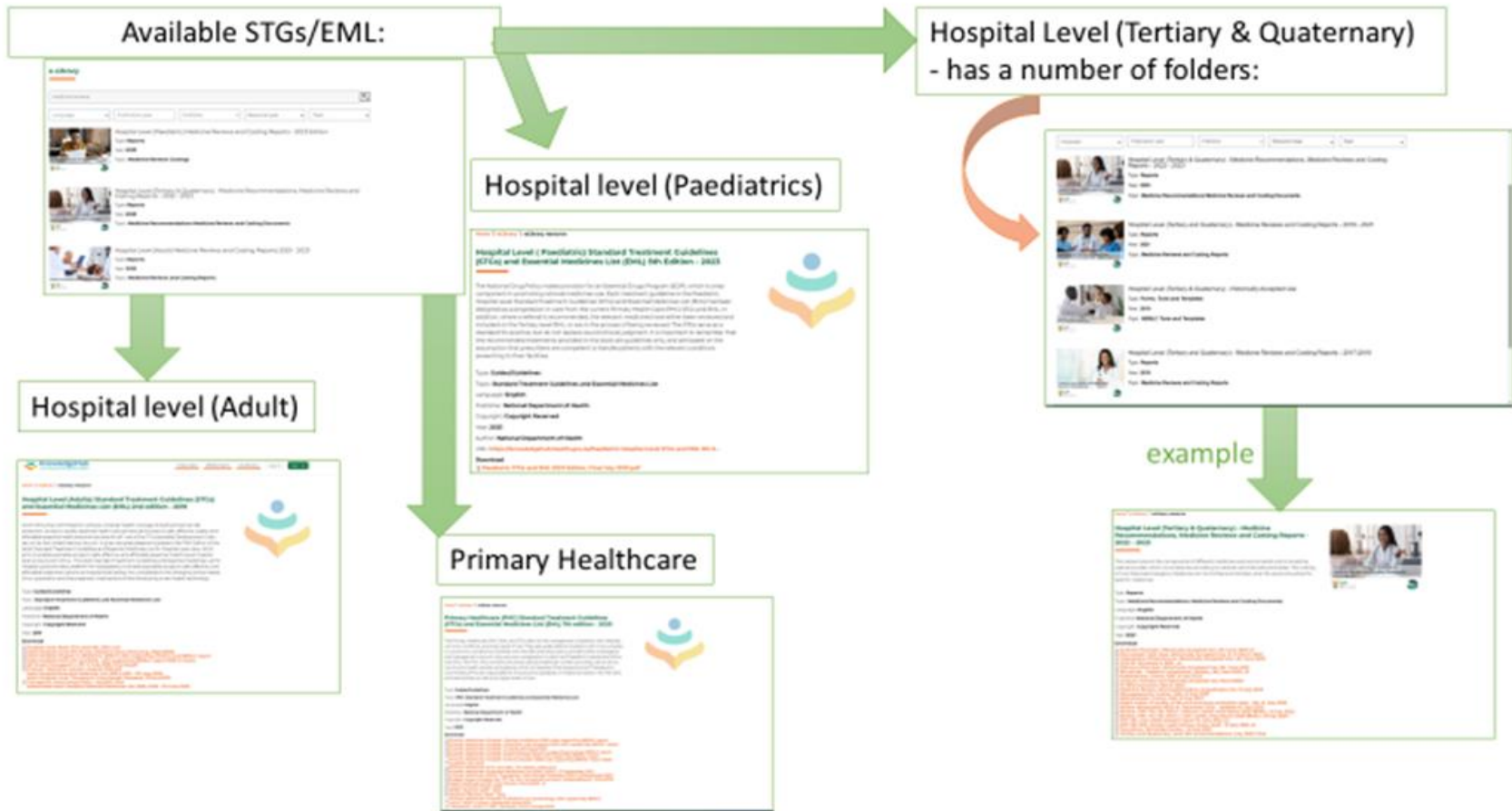
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How the STGs/EML are presented on KnowledgeHub



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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

NBThe 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	2020-4	2020-4	Published		Primary-Healthcare-Chapter-1-Dental-conditions_2020-3_with-supporting-NEMLC-report.pdf



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Notices



**APPLY
NOW**

NEMLC and ERC Call for Applications

Closing Date: 28 February 2025

Electronic Form Links:

NEMLC: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc15G77UYXunsmxwczNSi9cUpoAlgAJqTBv8Zy9o6zJ5BrQ/viewform?usp=header>

ERC: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfgcQmbqC7fvXwcePwQpFdmMgLVJKnlgadgB8pDuByfsalSrA/viewform?usp=header>

Notice: Request for comment on the National Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines Lists for all levels of care to guide prioritisation for the 2025 national essential medicines list committee review phase

Closing Date: 07 February 2025

Link: <https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Notice-Request-for-Comment-on-the-STGs-and-EML-for-all-Levels-of-Care-to-Guide-Prioritization-for-the-2025-NEMLC-Review-12-December-2024.pdf>

