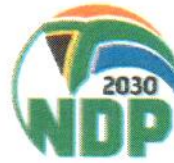




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**NOTICE: PUBLICATION OF CHAPTER 23: ADULT CRITICAL CARE AND SUPPORTING TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS IN THE ADULT HOSPITAL LEVEL (AHL) STANDARD TREATMENT GUIDELINES (STGs) AND ESSENTIAL MEDICINES LIST (EML) (As part of the 2024 edition of the AHL STGs and EML)**

The AHL Chapter 23: Adult Critical Care, a newly developed chapter, was ratified by the National Essential Medicines List Committee (NEMLC) in March 2024 as part of the AHL 2020-4 review cycle. This newly developed chapter is aimed at intensive care unit and high care treatment for adult patients. The corresponding NEMLC report, which outlines the medicine recommendations, in the chapter with supporting evidence and rationale, and the following supportive technical medicine review documents are included:

- Ceftazidime-Avibactam for the treatment of Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacterales (CRE) bacteraemia;
- Vasopressor agents in the treatment of adults with septic shock.

The AHL Chapter 23: Adult Critical Care and supportive documents have been uploaded on the Knowledge Hub (KH) platform's eLibrary in the folder labelled 'Hospital Level (Adults) Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) and Essential Medicines List (EML) 5th edition – 2019'. Alternatively, the documents can be accessed via the following link: <https://knowledgehub.health.gov.za/elibrary/hospital-level-adults-standard-treatment-guidelines-stgs-and-essential-medicines-list-eml> or alternatively at <https://www.health.gov.za/nhi-edp-stgs-eml/>. The STGs and EML will also be made available on the EMGuidance application platform in due course.

The National Department of Health (NDoH) acknowledges all stakeholders involved in the development of the chapter including the inputs and comments received during the call for comment phase of the chapter, which were deliberated by NEMLC to produce the final evidence-based Adult Critical Care STGs. Note that this is the first iteration of the Adult Critical Care chapter with further updates planned for future review cycles (including the review for consideration of inclusion of new medicines if prioritised for future review).

Kindly share with all healthcare professionals and relevant stakeholders encouraging widespread implementation of the recommendations in this newly published chapter.

Queries may be submitted via e-mail to:

E-mail: [SAEDP@health.gov.za](mailto:SAEDP@health.gov.za)

Kind regards

**MS K JAMALOODIEN**  
**CHIEF DIRECTOR: SECTOR-WIDE PROCUREMENT**

DATE: 4/4/2024