



health

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Reference: 2024/10/28/EDP/01

**NOTICE: PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ESSENTIAL MEDICINES LIST COMMITTEE (NEMLC) APPROVED UPDATES TO THE PRIMARY HEALTHCARE (PHC) AND ADULT HOSPITAL LEVEL (AHL) CHAPTERS FOR THE STANDARD TREATMENT GUIDELINES (STGs) AND ESSENTIAL MEDICINES LIST (EML) – 2024 EDITIONS**

Below is a list of the recently published chapters for the 2024 editions of the PHC and Adult Hospital Level STGs and EML. Updates to chapters and supporting technical documents (medicine reviews, costing reports, NEMLC reports, PHC implementation slides) for the 2020-2024 review cycle are uploaded onto the National Department of Health Knowledge Hub eLibrary and the NHI webpage following finalisation for publication.

PHC Chapters with the associated NEMLC reports	Status
Chapter 8: Kidney and urological disorders	2024 Chapter update
Chapter 13: Immunisation (Latest published version: 2020-2024 version:1.0	<b>Recent updates to the previous published version</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 13.2: Childhood immunisation schedule and vaccines used for routine administration aligned to the 2024 National Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) schedule.</li> <li>Section 13.7: Guidance amended/clarified on the use of other vaccines recommended in the STG. Refer to PHC Chapter 13 NEMLC report for further details including other editorial amendments made to the chapter.</li> </ul>
Chapter 21: Emergencies and injuries (latest published version: 2020-2024 version 1.1)	<b>Recent updates to the previous published version</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 21.3.1.1: Guidance clarified on the authorised prescribers for rabies vaccine and rabies immunoglobulin (RIG). Refer to page 24 of the associated PHC Chapter 21 NEMLC report (v1.1), for further detail.</li> </ul>
Chapter 23: Standard paediatric dosing tables	2024 Chapter update
Adult Hospital Level chapters with the associated NEMLC reports	Status
Chapter 7: Nephrology/Urological disorders	2020-4 Chapter update
Chapter 9: Systemic and Healthcare-associated Infections (latest published version:2020-2024 version 1.1)	<b>Recent updates to the previous published version</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 9.1.3: Recommendation for the preferential use of meropenem over</li> </ul>



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	<p>imipenem/cilastatin for patients with CNS disorders or a history of seizure disorders, deleted. Refer to page 8-9 of the associated AHL Chapter 9 NEMLC report (v1.1), for further detail.</p>
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**List of Medicine Reviews and Costing Analyses:** *Please refer to the individual medicine reviews for the NEMLC recommendation which may/not support inclusion on the EML.*

Topic	Relevance to:	
	PHC Level of Care	Adult Hospital Level of Care
Medicine class review of erythropoiesis-stimulating agents		√

**The corresponding URLs are listed below:**

Knowledge Hub-AHL: <https://knowledgehub.health.gov.za/elibrary/hospital-level-adults-standard-treatment-guidelines-stgs-and-essential-medicines-list-eml>

Knowledge Hub -PHC: <https://knowledgehub.health.gov.za/elibrary/primary-healthcare-phc-standard-treatment-guidelines-stgs-and-essential-medicines-list-eml>

NHI webpage: <https://www.health.gov.za/nhi-edp-stgs-eml/>

These documents will also be available on the EMGuidance application platform in due course. To sign up, click on the link: <http://onelink.to/sy896k>.

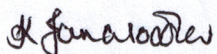
Please refer to the chapter, corresponding NEMLC report and evidence-based medicine review/s (where available) for detailed explanations of all the medicines, general measures and editorial amendments made to the STGs and EMLs in the 2020 to 2024 review cycle.

Provinces and Healthcare Facilities are requested to distribute and communicate this information in consultation with the Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committees for immediate implementation. Kindly share with all healthcare professionals and relevant stakeholders.

Queries may be submitted *via* e-mail to:

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

Kind regards



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