

A.10	Echinocandins for treatment of fungal diseases
Does the application adequately address the issue of the public health need for the medicine?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable Comments:
Briefly summarize the role of the proposed medicine(s) relative to other therapeutic agents currently included in the Model List, or available in the market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Echinocandins are fungicidal against majority of candida ssp. • Less toxic than amphotericin B • Low rates of adverse effects • Fewer drug-drug interactions compared to azole antifungals (they are not substrates for cytochrome P450 isozymes). Hence can be used in patients taking ARVs and who require antifungals for opportunistic fungal infections • Lower resistance prevalence • Resistant mutants show reduced fitness compared with susceptible strains
Have all important studies and all relevant evidence been included in the application?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable If no, please provide brief comments on any relevant studies or evidence that have not been included:
Does the application provide adequate evidence of efficacy/effectiveness of the medicine for the proposed indication?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable Briefly summarize the reported benefits (e.g. hard clinical versus surrogate outcomes) and comment, where possible on the actual magnitude and clinical relevance of benefit associated with use of the medicine(s). a) Are fungicidal against most candida ssp. Compared to azole antifungals which are fungistatic; b) Efficacious against almost all candida ssp. Including intrinsic and secondary azole resistant strains , eg most strains of <i>candida auris</i> Is there evidence of efficacy in diverse settings (e.g. low-resource settings) and/or populations (e.g. children, the elderly, pregnant patients)? Yes
Does the application provide adequate evidence of the safety and adverse effects associated with the medicine?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable Comments:

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Are there any adverse effects of concern, or that may require special monitoring?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable Comments:
Briefly summarize your assessment of the overall benefit to risk ratio of the medicine (e.g. favourable, uncertain, etc.)	The benefit to risk ratio is favourable
Briefly summarize your assessment of the overall quality of the evidence for the medicine(s) (e.g. high, moderate, low etc.)	The quality of evidence is high
Are there any special requirements for the safe, effective and appropriate use of the medicine(s)? (e.g. laboratory diagnostic and/or monitoring tests, specialized training for health providers, etc)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable Comments: Dose correction for Caspofungin needed in obese patients. Moreover, Echinocandins require intravenous administration which may be a challenge in resource-poor settings.
Are you aware of any issues regarding the registration of the medicine by national regulatory authorities? (e.g. accelerated approval, lack of regulatory approval, off-label indication)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
Is the proposed medicine recommended for use in a current WHO Guideline approved by the Guidelines Review Committee? (refer to: https://www.who.int/publications/who-guidelines)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable Comments:
Briefly summarize your assessment of any issues regarding access, cost and affordability of the medicine in different settings.	In low and middle-income countries, amphotericin B and fluconazole are more cost effective than echinocandins. This review says that "if echinocandins are included in the WHO EDL, cost of acquiring these drugs will be reduced" . However, cost of treatment with echinocandins could be higher in resource-poor settings since they are administered intravenously.
Any additional comments	None
Based on your assessment of the application, and any additional evidence / relevant information identified during the review process, briefly summarize your proposed recommendation to the Expert Committee, including the supporting rationale for your	The application to add echinocandins to the essential list of medicines for treatment of fungal diseases. Based on the evidence provided, I recommend that the committee accepts this application

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conclusions, and any doubts/concerns in relation to the listing proposal.	
References (if required)	