

## Core basket of medicines

In order to calculate the SDG 3.b.3 indicator on access to medicines, the core set (or basket) of relevant essential medicines must be selected. Based on the 2017 WHO Model List of Essential Medicines, a group of experts identified a core basket of 32 tracer essential medicines for acute and chronic, communicable and non-communicable diseases in the primary health care setting. An additional four medicines have been added to the list as optional and any of them can be included for analysis depending on the specific needs of a selected country.

While some medicine categories may only have one option available as the relevant main course of treatment for a specific disease, some medicine categories offer multiple options and selections must be made based on which is more relevant to the specific country context. Specifically:

- Two antihypertensive medicines must be selected from four options
- One contraceptive must be selected from five options
- One anti-malarial medicine, in addition to artesunate (60 mg injection or 100 mg rectal dose form) must be selected from six options
- One antiretroviral medicine must be selected from two options
- For the optional medicines, one antiallergic/anti-anaphylactic medicine must be selected from two options

Medicines are usually selected based on the specific country's medicines production strategy (i.e., import or domestic production) and in this case, the selection of the medicines is done at the national level for all facilities. At the facility level, medicines are predominantly selected in order to minimize costs (i.e., the lowest priced quality medicine). In this case, the selection of medicines is done at the facility level and the medicines selected for analysis may vary from facility to facility.

Depending on specific national distribution policies, some medicines may be excluded from analysis in a specific type of facility. For example, morphine is generally not permitted to be distributed in pharmacies and can only be provided in hospitals in many countries.

Please note that other medicines may be excluded from the core basket of medicines analyzed due to other specific policies in the country being analyzed.

If less than 50% (16) of the listed core set of essential medicines are identified as relevant and selected for analysis in a particular facility, that particular facility must be excluded from further analysis. This is done to avoid potential statistical errors that can lead to under- or overestimation of the access to medicines index.

**[Table 1].** Basket of core set of relevant essential medicines for primary health care

<u>Medicine</u>	<u>Dose</u>	<u>Category (Therapeutic group)</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Affiliated disease (code of the diseases according to the ICD-11 classification)</u>
Salbutamol	100 mcg/dose inhaler	NCD - Respiratory	30	30	→ Asthma (1190)
					→ Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (1180)
Beclometasone	100 mcg/dose inhaler	NCD - Respiratory	30	60	→ Asthma (1190)
Gliclazide	80 mg cap/tab	NCD - Diabetes	30	30	→ Diabetes mellitus (800)
Metformin	500 mg cap/tab <b>OR</b> 850 mg cap/tab <b>OR</b> 1 g cap/tab	NCD - Diabetes	30	90	→ Diabetes mellitus (800)
Insulin regular, soluble	100 IU/ml injection	NCD - Diabetes	30	90	→ Diabetes mellitus (800)
Amlodipine	5 mg cap/tab	NCD – antihypertensive	30	30	→ Hypertensive heart disease (1120)
Enalapril	5 mg cap/tab	NCD – antihypertensive	30	30	→ Hypertensive heart disease (1120)
Hydrochlorothiazide ( <b>OR</b> Chlorthalidone)	25 mg cap/tab	NCD – antihypertensive	30	30 (15)	→ Cardiomyopathy, myocarditis, endocarditis (1150)
Bisoprolol	5 mg cap/tab	NCD - antihypertensive	30	30	→ Hypertensive heart disease (1120)
					→ Ischaemic heart disease (1130)
					→ Other circulatory diseases (1160)
					→ Cardiomyopathy, myocarditis, endocarditis (1150)

Simvastatin	20 mg cap/tab	NCD - Cardiovascular	30	30	→ Ischaemic heart disease (1130) → Stroke (1140)
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin)	100 mg cap/tab	NCD – Cardiovascular	30	30	→ Ischaemic heart disease (1130)
Morphine	10mg cap/tab	Palliative care	30	180	→ Malignant neoplasms (610)
Paracetamol	500 mg tab/cap	Pain and Palliative Care	30	180	→ weight = 1/T
Fluoxetine	20 mg cap/tab	CNS	30	30	→ Depressive disorders (830)
Phenytoin ( <b>OR</b> Carbamazepine)	100mg cap/tab (200 mg cap/tab)	CNS	30	90 (150)	→ Epilepsy (970)
Gentamicin	40 mg/mL in 2mL vial	Anti-infective	3	15	→ Lower respiratory infections (390) → Infectious and parasitic diseases (20)
Amoxicillin	500mg cap/tab	Anti-infective	7	21	→ Infectious and parasitic diseases (20)
Ceftriaxone	1g/vial Injection	Anti-infective	1	1	
Procaine benzylpenicillin ( <b>OR</b> Benzathine benzylpenicillin)	1G = 1MU Injection (900mg=1.2 MIU <b>OR</b> 1.44g = 2.4MIU injection)	Anti-infective	10 (1)	10 (1 or 2)	
Ethinylestradiol + levonorgestrel	30 mcg cap/tab + 150 mcg cap/tab	MCH (contraceptives)	28	21	→ Maternal conditions (420)
Levonorgestrel	30 mcg cap/tab	MCH (contraceptives)	28	28	
Medroxyprogesterone acetate injection	IM 150 mg/mL <b>OR</b> SC 104 mg/0.65mL	MCH (contraceptives)	84	1	
Progesterone-releasing implant: Etonogestrel <b>OR</b> Levonorgestrel	Etonogestrel 68 mg <b>OR</b> Levonorgestrel 150 mg	MCH (contraceptives)	3 or 5 years	1	
Levonorgestrel	750 mcg <b>OR</b> 1.5 mg tablet	MCH (contraceptives)	1	2 or 1	
Oral rehydration salts	1 litre	MCH	1	3	→ Diarrhoeal diseases (110)

Zinc sulphate	20mg dispersible tablet	MCH	14	14	
Oxytocin	5iu or 10iu injection	MCH	1	1	→ Maternal conditions (420)
Magnesium sulphate	50% 10ml Injection	MCH	1	2	→ Epilepsy (970)
Folic acid	400 mcg tablet	MCH	30	30	→ Iron-deficiency anaemia (580)
Artemether+lumefantrine	20/120 mg cap/tab	Anti-malarial	3	24	→ Malaria (220)
Artesunate+amodiaquine	100 mg + 270 mg	Anti-malarial	3	6	
Artesunate+mefloquine	100 mg + 220 mg	Anti-malarial	3	6	
Dihydroartemisinin+piperazine	40 mg + 320 mg	Anti-malarial	3	9	
Artesunate+sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine	200 mg + 1500mg + 75mg	Anti-malarial	3	3 + 1	
Artesunate	60 mg injection <b>OR</b> 100 mg rectal dose form	Anti-malarial	1	1	
Efavirenz + Emtricitabine + Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate	400 mg OR 600 mg + 200 mg + 300 mg	Antiretroviral	30	30	→ HIV/AIDS (100)
Efavirenz + Lamivudine + Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate	400 mg or 600 mg + 300 mg + 300 mg	Antiretroviral	30	30	
Ibuprofen	200mg cap/tab	Pain and Palliative Care	30	60	→ weight = 1/T
Furosemide	40 mg cap/tab	NCD - Cardiovascular	30	30	→ Cardiomyopathy, myocarditis, endocarditis (1150)
Chlorhexidine	Solution or gel: 7.1% (digluconate) delivering 4% chlorhexidine	Neonatal care	7	1	→ Neonatal sepsis and infections (520)
Ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF)	paste or spread (1 sachet = 92 g [500 Kcal]) <b>OR</b>	Nutrition	30	150 - 220 kcal/kg per day	→ Nutritional deficiencies (540)

	biscuit (28.4g, 500 kcal per 100g)	Nutrition			
Isoniazid + pyrazinamide + rifampicin	50 mg + 150 mg + 75 mg	Antituberculosis	30	30 (60, 90 or 120)	→ Tuberculosis (30)
Epoetin alfa	2,000 IU/mL	Chronic kidney disease	12	50 units/kg	→ weight = 0.5*(1/T)
<b>Suggested for monitoring (optional for countries) *</b>					
Epinephrine	1 mg injection	Antiallergics and medicine used in anaphylaxis	1	0.5	→ weight = 0.5*(1/T)
Dexamethasone	injection 4 mg/ mL in 1-mL ampoule (as disodium phosphate salt)	Antiallergics and medicine used in anaphylaxis	1	1	→ weight = 0.5*(1/T)
Fluconazole	50 mg cap/tab (depending on indication)	Anti-fungal			→ weight = 0.5*(1/T)
Nystatin	tablet 500 000 IU	Anti-fungal	2	8	→ weight = 0.5*(1/T)
Levothyroxine	tablet 50 micrograms	Thyroid hormones	30	60	→ weight = 0.5*(1/T)