



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Enquiries:

Clinical queries:
Essential Drugs Programme
SAEDP@health.gov.za

TLART queries:
Third Line ART Therapy Secretariate
TLART@health.gov.za

NOTICE: DRUG-DRUG INTERACTIONS BETWEEN CORTICOSTEROIDS (BUDESONIDE AND FLUTICASONE) AND PROTEASE INHIBITORS

The Paediatric and Adult Hospital Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) and Essential Medicines List (EML) recommends the use of inhaled corticosteroids for the treatment in asthma (see Figures 1 and 2 for the links to the Adult Respiratory chapter, and the Paediatric STGs/EML 2023, respectively).

Budesonide, fluticasone and beclomethasone are available as inhaled corticosteroids as well as in nasal sprays.

The concomitant use of protease inhibitors (PIs) and budesonide or fluticasone is not recommended as this combination can result in systemic corticosteroid side effects such as Cushing’s syndrome and adrenal suppression.

Therefore, budesonide and fluticasone should be avoided in patients that are also on a PI (such as atazanavir, lopinavir, or darunavir). If a corticosteroid is required, then it is recommended that the corticosteroid beclomethasone be prescribed as this agent is not contra-indicated with concomitant PI use.

Patient education should be considered to increase their understanding regarding this drug-drug interaction, and recorded in the patient’s chart as necessary.

The Essential Drugs Programme can be contacted for queries related to the STGs/EML at SAEDP@health.gov.za, and the Third Line Antiretroviral Therapy Committee can be contacted with any queries with regards to this circular at TLART@health.gov.za.

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

Kind regards,

MS KHADIJA JAMALOODIEN
CHIEF DIRECTOR: SECTOR-WIDE PROCUREMENT
DATE: 29 October 2024

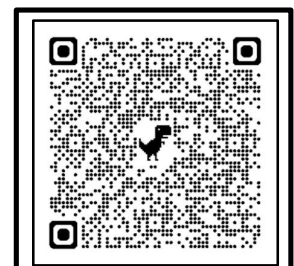


Figure 1: Adult STGs/EML Respiratory chapter 2024

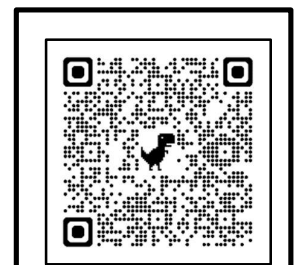


Figure 2: Paediatric STGs/EML 2023