





Reference: 2025/01/13/EDP/03

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

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

PHC Chapters with the associated NEMLC reports	Status
Chapter 13: Immunisation (Version 1.1)	 Key updates Updated BCG Vaccination guidance for newborns: Repeat dose and catch-up dose added.
PHC Implementation slides	Status
Chapter 4: Cardiovascular Conditions	New
Chapter 5: Skin Conditions	New
Chapter 8: Kidney and Urological Disorders	New
Chapter 11: HIV and AIDS	New
Chapter 13: Immunisation	New
Chapter 17: Respiratory Conditions	New
Chapter 18: Eye Conditions	New
Chapter 20: Pain	New
Chapter 22: Medicines Used in Palliative Care	New

The documents listed above can be accessed on the National Department of Health's website, National Health Insurance (NHI) webpage, Primary Healthcare tab on the following link: 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, please click on the link: http://onelink.to/sy896k.

Please refer to the chapter, corresponding NEMLC report and evidence-based medicine review/s and costing reports (where available) for detailed explanations of all the medicine, 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.

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Kind regards,

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