

WHO MODEL LIST OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES

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Overview

This document outlines the WHO Essential Medicines List, which includes medicines critical to addressing priority healthcare needs. Medicines are selected based on disease prevalence, efficacy, safety, and cost-effectiveness. They must be available in health systems at all times, in proper dosage forms, with assured quality, and at affordable prices.

The list serves as a guide for countries and regions to tailor national medication use, including Multiple Micronutrient Supplements (MMS), according to local priorities. The WHO updates the list every two years.

The document specifies dosage forms, strengths, and active ingredients of MMS (page 54). Inclusion in the list does not guarantee pharmaceutical quality, and national or regional drug authorities are responsible for ensuring compliance with quality and stability standards.

Link to Document

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