

**Indian Academy of Pediatrics
List of Essential Medicines
for Children of India**

First List - October 2011



in collaboration with

World Health Organization
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New Delhi



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Preface

In May 2007, the World Health Assembly passed resolution 60.20 which called on Member States to improve access to essential medicines for children. The ‘make medicines child size’ initiative of the World Health Organization (WHO) was a consequence of this resolution and formally commenced in December 2008 with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Early discussions on the Better Medicines for Children (BMC) project in Africa and India took place in Accra, Ghana in 2009 for which the then president of the Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP), Dr. Panna Chaudhury was invited. Following this, in February 2010, representatives of the IAP were invited to attend the “Informal Consultation on Better Medicines for Children in India” which was held at the WHO’s South-East Asia Regional Office (SEARO) in New Delhi. At this meeting, the IAP was formally requested to prepare a list of essential medicines for the children of India which would reflect the morbidity patterns and other child health needs of the country, and which could perhaps, later form the basis of a national EMLc. The IAP readily accepted and took up this challenge.

Drawing upon the considerable knowledge enthusiasm and commitment of the nearly 18000 members of the IAP, the various chapters of the academy were given the task of identifying a minimal number of medicines that would be considered ‘essential’. The IAP convened “The National Consultative Meeting on Essential Medicines List for Children” on 17 October 2010 in Mumbai, where the first draft of the list was presented and reviewed. The list has undergone numerous revisions and has been reviewed by international and national experts to reach its present form.

The IAP's Essential Medicines List for children (EMLc) of India covers the basic needs for the majority of children seeking health care in the country. The medicines were selected based on the WHO criteria for selection of essential medicines, and the National Health Programmes in India. This is the first edition of the IAP EMLc 2011 and it contains 134 medicines. The IAP is committed to reviewing the list once in two years and to disseminate information and sensitize members of the IAP and medical practitioners in the public and private sector regarding the use and implementation of this EMLc.

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Indian Academy of Pediatrics

List of Essential Medicines for Children of India

1. ANESTHETICS	
1.1 General anesthetics and oxygen	
1.1.1 Inhalational Medicines	
halothane	Inhalation
nitrous oxide	Inhalation
oxygen (medicinal gas).	Inhalation
1.1.2 Injectable medicines	
ketamine	Injection: 50 mg (as hydrochloride)/ml in 10 ml vial.
1.2 Local anesthetics	
lidocaine	Injection: 1%; 2% (hydrochloride) in vial. Injection for spinal anesthesia: 5% (hydrochloride) in 2 ml ampoule to be mixed with 7.5% glucose solution. Topical forms: 2%; 4%; 5%(hydrochloride).
lidocaine + epinephrine (adrenaline)	Dental cartridge: 2% (hydrochloride) + epinephrine 1:80,000. Injection: 1%; 2% (hydrochloride or sulfate) + epinephrine 1:200,000 in vial.
1.3 Preoperative medication and sedation for short term procedures	
atropine	Injection: 0.6 mg (sulfate) in 1 ml ampoule.
midazolam	Oral liquid: 2 mg/ml. Injection: 1 mg/ml.

2. ANALGESICS, ANTIPYRETICS, NON-STEROIDAL ANTI-INFLAMMATORY MEDICINES (NSAIMs)	
2.1 Non-opioids and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines (NSAIMs)	
ibuprofen	Oral liquid: 100 mg/5 ml. Tablet: 200 mg.
paracetamol	Oral liquid: 125 mg/5 ml; 250 mg/5 ml. Tablet: 100 mg; 250 mg.
2.2 Opioid analgesics	
morphine	Tablet: 10 mg (as sulfate). Injection: 10 mg (as hydrochloride or sulfate) in 1 ml ampoule.
3. ANTIALLERGICS AND MEDICINES USED IN ANAPHYLAXIS	
chlorphenamine	Oral liquid: 0.5 mg/5 ml; 2 mg/5 ml (hydrogen maleate). Tablet: 4 mg (hydrogen maleate). Injection: 10 mg (hydrogen maleate) in 1 ml ampoule.
dexamethasone	Injection: 4 mg dexamethasone phosphate (as disodium salt) in 1 ml ampoule.
epinephrine (adrenaline)	Injection: 1 mg (as hydrochloride or hydrogen tartrate) in 1 ml ampoule (1:1000).
hydrocortisone	Powder for injection: 100 mg (as sodium succinate) in vial.
prednisolone	Oral liquid: 3 mg/ml; 5 mg/ml. Tablet: 5 mg; 10 mg.

4. ANTIDOTES AND OTHER SUBSTANCES USED IN POISONINGS	
4.1 Non-specific	
charcoal, activated	Powder: 25 g; 50 g.
4.2 Specific	
atropine	Injection: 0.6 mg (as sulfate) in 1 ml ampoule.
naloxone	Injection: 200 micrograms/ml; 400 micrograms/ml (hydrochloride) in 1 ml ampoule.
pralidoxime	Injection: 25 mg/ml (as chloride, iodide or mesylate) in 20 ml vial.
5. ANTICONVULSANTS/ ANTIEPILEPTICS	
carbamazepine	Oral liquid: 100 mg/5 ml. Tablet (chewable): 100 mg. Tablet: 100 mg; 200 mg.
diazepam	Injection: 5 mg/ml. Rectal: 1 mg/ml; 2 mg/ml.
lorazepam	Tablet: 1 mg; 2 mg. Injection: 2 mg/ml in 1 ml ampoule.
midazolam	Injection: 1 mg/ml.
phenobarbital	Oral liquid: 15 mg/5 ml. Tablet: 10 mg; 30 mg; 100 mg. Injection: 200 mg/ml (sodium salt).
phenytoin	Oral liquid: 25 mg/5 ml. Solid oral dosage form: 25 mg; 50 mg; 100 mg (sodium salt). Tablet (chewable): 50 mg. Injection: 50 mg/ml in 5 ml vial (sodium salt).

valproic acid (sodium valproate)	Oral liquid: 200 mg/5 ml. Tablet (crushable): 100 mg. Tablet (enteric coated): 200 mg; 300 mg.
6. ANTI-INFECTIVE MEDICINES	
6.1 Anthelmintics	
6.1.1 Intestinal anthelmintics	
albendazole	Suspension: 200 mg/5 ml. Tablet (chewable) : 400 mg.
pyrantel	Oral liquid: 50 mg (as embonate or pamoate)/ml. Tablet (chewable): 250 mg (as embonate).
6.1.2 Antifilarials	
diethylcarbamazine	Oral liquid: 50 mg/5 ml. Tablet: 50 mg; 100 mg (as dihydrogen citrate).
6.2 Antibacterials	
6.2.1 Beta Lactam medicines	
amoxicillin	Powder for oral liquid: 125 mg (as trihydrate)/5 ml; 250 mg (as trihydrate)/5 ml. Tablet (dispersible, scored): 250 mg. Solid oral dosage form: 250 mg; 500 mg (as trihydrate).

amoxicillin + clavulanic acid	<p>Oral liquid: 200 mg amoxicillin + 28.5 mg clavulanic acid/5 ml.</p> <p>Solid oral dosage form: 500 mg amoxicillin (as trihydrate) + 125 mg clavulanic acid (as potassium salt).</p> <p>Tablet (dispersible): 200 mg amoxicillin + 28.5 mg clavulanic acid.</p>
ampicillin	Powder for injection: 100 mg; 250 mg; 500 mg; (as sodium salt) in vial.
benzathine benzylpenicillin	Powder for injection: 900 mg benzylpenicillin (= 1.2 million IU) in 5 ml vial; 1.44 g benzylpenicillin (= 2.4 million IU) in 5 ml vial.
benzylpenicillin	Powder for injection: 600 mg (= 1 million IU) in 5 ml vial; 3 g (= 5 million IU) in 5 ml vial.
cefadroxil	<p>Powder for oral liquid: 125 mg/5 ml; 250 mg/5 ml (anhydrous).</p> <p>Tablet (dispersible): 250 mg (as monohydrate).</p>
ceftriaxone	Powder for injection: 250 mg; 1 g (as sodium salt) in vial.
procaine benzylpenicillin	Powder for injection: 1 g (=1 million IU); 3 g (=3 million IU) in 5 ml vial.
6.2.2 Other antibacterials	
azithromycin	<p>Oral liquid: 100 mg/5 ml; 200 mg/5 ml.</p> <p>Tablet (dispersible): 100 mg.</p>
ciprofloxacin	<p>Oral liquid: 250 mg/5 ml (anhydrous).</p> <p>Tablet (dispersible): 100 mg.</p> <p>Tablet: 250 mg (as-hydrochloride).</p> <p>Solution for IV infusion: 2 mg/ml in 100 ml bag/bottle</p>
gentamicin	Injection: 10 mg; 40 mg (as sulfate)/ml in 2 ml vial.

metronidazole	Oral liquid: 200 mg (as benzoate)/5 ml. Tablet: 200 mg; 400 mg. Injection: 500 mg in 100 ml vial for infusion.
sulfamethoxazole + trimethoprim	Oral liquid: 200 mg + 40 mg/5 ml. Tablet: 100 mg + 20 mg; 400 mg + 80 mg. Injection: 80 mg + 16 mg/ml in 5 ml ampoule.
6.2.3 Antileprosy medicines	
clofazimine	Capsule: 50 mg; 100 mg.
dapsone	Tablet: 25 mg; 50 mg.
rifampicin	Oral liquid: 20 mg/ml. Oral dosage form: 75 mg; 150 mg.
6.2.4 Antituberculosis medicines	
The use of fixed dose combi-packs as per the RNTCP guidelines for children are recommended.	
ethambutol	Tablet: 200 mg; 400 mg (hydrochloride).
isoniazid	Oral liquid: 100 mg/5 ml. Tablet: 75 mg; 150 mg. Tablet (scored): 50 mg.
pyrazinamide	Oral liquid: 50 mg/ml. Tablet: 250 mg; 500 mg. Tablet (dispersible): 150 mg. Tablet (scored): 150 mg.
rifampicin	Oral liquid: 20 mg/ml. Oral dosage form: 75 mg; 150 mg.
streptomycin	Injection: 750 mg in vial.

6.3 Antifungal medicines	
fluconazole	Oral dosage form: 50 mg; 100 mg. Oral liquid: 5 mg/ml. Injection: 2 mg/ml in vial.
6.4 Antiviral medicines	
6.4.1 Antiretrovirals	
6.4.1.1 Nucleoside/Nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitors	
abacavir (ABC)	Tablet: 300 mg (as sulfate).
didanosine (ddl)	Tablet (buffered chewable, dispersible): 100 mg; 200 mg; 250 mg.
lamivudine (3TC)	Oral liquid: 50 mg/5 ml; 150 mg/5 ml. Tablet: 100 mg; 150 mg.
zidovudine (ZDV or AZT)	Oral dosage form: 100 mg; 300 mg. Oral liquid: 50 mg/5 ml. Solution for IV infusion injection: 10 mg/ml in 20 ml vial.
6.4.1.2 Non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors	
efavirenz (EFV or EFZ)	Oral liquid: 150 mg/5 ml. Capsule: 50 mg; 200 mg. Tablet: 200 mg.* *Not recommended for children below 3 years of age.
nevirapine (NVP)	Oral liquid: 50 mg/5 ml. Solid oral dosage form: 200 mg.
6.4.1.3 Protease inhibitors	
atazanavir	Oral dosage form: 100 mg; 150 mg (as-sulfate).
ritonavir	Capsule: 100 mg.

6.4.1.4 Fixed- dose combinations	
lopinavir + ritonavir (LPV/r)	Tablet : 100 mg + 25 mg.
stavudine + lamivudine	Tablet (dispersible) : 6 mg + 30 mg.
stavudine + lamivudine + nevirapine	Tablet (dispersible) : 6 mg + 30 mg + 50 mg.
zidovudine + lamivudine	Tablet : 60 mg + 30 mg.
zidovudine + lamivudine + nevirapine	Tablet (dispersible) : 60 mg + 30 mg + 50 mg.
6.5 Antiprotozoal medicines	
6.5.1 Antiamoebic and anti giardiasis medicines	
diloxanide	Tablet : 250 mg (furoate).
metronidazole	Oral liquid : 200 mg (as benzoate)/5 ml. Tablet : 200 mg. Injection : 500 mg in 100 ml vial for infusion.
6.5.2 Antileishmaniasis medicines	
amphotericin B	Injection : 50 mg/ml.
pentamidine isethionate	Injection : 200 mg (powder for injection).
sodium stibogluconate	Injection : 100 mg/ml.
6.5.3 Antimalarial medicines	
6.5.3.1 For curative treatment	
chloroquine*	Oral liquid : 50 mg (as phosphate or sulfate)/5 ml; 50 mg/10 ml. Tablet : 100 mg; 150 mg (as phosphate or sulfate). Injection : 40 mg/ml. * For use only for the treatment of <i>P.vivax</i> infection.
primaquine*	Tablet : 2.5 mg; 7.5 mg (as diphosphate). * Only to achieve radical cure of <i>P.vivax</i> and <i>P.ovale</i> infections.

quinine	<p>Suspension: 150 mg/5 ml.</p> <p>Tablet: 100 mg, 300 mg (quinine sulfate) or 300 mg (quinine bisulfate).</p> <p>Injection: 300 mg (quinine hydrochloride)/ml in 2 ml ampoule.</p>
Fixed- dose combinations	
artemether + lumefantrine*	<p>Dry syrup: 40 mg + 240 mg/5 ml.</p> <p>Tablet: 20 mg + 120 mg.</p> <p>Tablet (dispersible): 20 mg + 120 mg.</p> <p>* Not recommended in children below 5 kg.</p>
artesunate + sulfadoxine + pyrimethamine	Tablet: 75 mg + 125 mg + 6.25 mg.
6.5.3.2 For prophylaxis	
doxycycline*	<p>Tablet: 100 mg.</p> <p>* Not recommended in children below 8 years of age.</p>
7. ANTIMIGRAINE MEDICINES	
7.1 For treatment of acute attack	
ibuprofen	<p>Oral liquid: 100 mg/5 ml.</p> <p>Tablet: 200 mg.</p>
paracetamol	<p>Oral liquid: 125 mg/5 ml; 250 mg/5 ml.</p> <p>Tablet: 100 mg; 250 mg.</p>
7.2 For prophylaxis	
propranolol	Tablet: 20 mg; 40 mg (as hydrochloride).

8. ANTINEOPLASTIC MEDICINES	
8.1 Cytotoxic medicines Medicines listed below should be used according to protocols for treatment of individual diseases.	
cyclophosphamide	Powder for injection: 500 mg in vial.
daunorubicin	Powder for injection: 50 mg (hydrochloride) in vial.
mercaptopurine	Tablet: 50 mg.
methotrexate	Powder for injection: 50 mg (as sodium salt) in vial. Tablet: 2.5 mg (as sodium salt).
methylprednisolone	Injection: 40 mg/ml (as sodium succinate) in 1 ml single dose vial and 5 ml multidose vials.
prednisolone	Oral liquid: 5 mg/ml.
vincristine	Powder for injection: 1 mg; 5 mg (sulfate) in vial.
9. MEDICINES AFFECTING THE BLOOD	
9.1 Antianaemia medicines	
hydroxyurea	Tablet: 250 mg.
iron + folic acid	Oral liquid: equivalent to 20 mg iron (as sulfate) and 100 micrograms folic acid/ml. Tablet: equivalent to 20 mg iron (as sulfate) and 100 micrograms folic acid.
10. CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINES	
10.1 Medicines used in heart failure	

digoxin	Oral liquid: 50 micrograms/ml. Tablet: 62.5 micrograms; 250 micrograms. Injection: 250 micrograms/ml in 2 ml ampoule.
dopamine	Injection: 40 mg (hydrochloride)/ml in 5 ml vial.
furosemide	Oral liquid: 10 mg/ml. Tablet: 10 mg, 20 mg. Injection: 10 mg/ml in 2 ml ampoule.
spironolactone	Oral Liquid: 2 mg/ml; 5 mg/ml. Tablet: 25 mg.
11. DERMATOLOGICAL MEDICINES (topical)	
11.1 Antifungal medicines	
miconazole	Cream or ointment: 2% (nitrate).
11.2 Anti-infective medicines	
silver sulfadiazine	Cream: 1%.
11.3 Anti-inflammatory and antipruritic medicines	
calamine	Lotion: 8%.
hydrocortisone	Cream or ointment: 0.25%, 1% (acetate).
11.4 Scabicides and pediculicides	
benzyl benzoate	Lotion: 25%.
permethrin	Cream: 5%. Lotion: 1%.
12. DISINFECTANTS AND ANTISEPTICS	
12.1 Antiseptics	
polyvidone iodine	Solution: 5%, 10%.
12.2 Disinfectants	

chloroxylenol	Solution: 4.8%.
13. DIURETICS	
furosemide	Oral liquid: 10 mg/ml. Tablet: 10 mg; 20 mg. Injection: 10 mg/ml in 2 ml ampoule.
mannitol	Injection: 10%, 20% in 100 ml.
spironolactone	Oral Liquid: 2 mg/ml; 5 mg/ml. Tablet: 25 mg.
14. GASTROINTESTINAL MEDICINES	
14.1 Antiemetic medicines	
metoclopramide	Oral Liquid: 1 mg/ml. Tablet: 5 mg; 10 mg (hydrochloride). Injection: 5 mg (hydrochloride)/ml in 2 ml ampoule.
14.2 Antiulcer medicines	
omeprazole	Granules for oral liquid: 20 mg in 40 mg sachets. Solid oral dosage form: 10 mg; 20 mg.
14.3 Medicines used in diarrhea	
14.3.1 Oral rehydration	

oral rehydration salts	glucose: 75 mEq/l sodium: 75 mEq or mmol/l chloride: 65 mEq or mmol/l potassium: 20 mEq or mmol/l citrate: 10 mmol/l osmolarity: 245 mOsm/l glucose: 13.5 g/l sodium chloride: 2.6 g/l potassium chloride: 1.5 g/l trisodium citrate dehydrate*: 2.9 g/l * trisodium citrate dihydrate may be replaced by sodium hydrogen carbonate (sodium-bicarbonate) 2.5 g/l. Powder for dilution in 1 l.
14.3.2 Medicines for diarrhoea in children	
zinc sulphate	Tablet (dispersible, scored): 20 mg (elemental zinc).
15. HORMONES, OTHER ENDOCRINE MEDICINES	
14.1 Adrenal hormones and synthetic substitutes	
hydrocortisone	Tablet: 5 mg; 10 mg. Injection: 25 mg/ml in 4 ml vial.
15.2 Insulins and other antidiabetic agents	
insulin injection (soluble)	Injection: 40 IU/ml in 10 ml vial.
insulin, intermediate acting	Injection: 40 IU/ml in 10 ml vial (as compound insulin zinc suspension or isophane insulin).
15.3 Thyroid hormones and antithyroid medicines	
levothyroxine	Tablet (scored): 25 micrograms, 50 micrograms (sodium salt).
16. IMMUNOLOGICALS	
16.1 Sera and immunoglobulins	
anti-snake venom	Injection: Polyvalent lyophilized powder for reconstitution in 10 ml.

antitetanus immunoglobulin (human)	Injection: 250 IU; 500 IU; 1500 IU in vial.
rabies immunoglobulin (equine)	Injection: 1500 IU/5 ml.
16.2 Vaccines	
BCG vaccine	As per National Immunization Schedule guidelines.
DPT vaccine	As per National Immunization Schedule guidelines.
hepatitis B vaccine	As per National Immunization Schedule guidelines.
measles vaccine	As per National Immunization Schedule guidelines.
oral polio vaccine	As per National Immunization Schedule guidelines.
rabies vaccine	Injection: 2.5 IU/ml (Human Diploid Cell Vaccine) lyophilized powder for reconstitution.
tetanus toxoid vaccine	As per National Immunization Schedule guidelines.
17. MUSCLE RELAXANTS (PERIPHERALLY-ACTING) AND CHOLINESTERASE INHIBITORS	
neostigmine	Injection: 0.5 mg/ml.
suxamethonium	Injection: 50 mg/ml.
18. OPHTHALMOLOGICAL PREPARATIONS	
18.1 Anti-infective agents	
gentamicin	Solution (eye drops): 0.3 % (sulfate).
18.2 Anti-inflammatory agents	
prednisolone	Solution (eye drops): 1% (sodium phosphate).
18.3 Mydriatics	
atropine	Solution (eye drops): 0.5%; 1% (sulfate). Ointment: 1%.
19. MEDICINES ACTING ON THE RESPIRATORY TRACT	
19.1 Antiasthmatics	

budesonide	Inhalation (aerosol): 100 micrograms per dose.
salbutamol	Oral liquid: 1 mg/5 ml; 2 mg/5 ml. Metered dose inhaler (aerosol): 100 micrograms (as sulfate) per dose. Injection: 50 micrograms (as sulfate)/ml in 5 ml ampoule. Respirator solution for use in nebulizers: 5 mg (as sulfate)/ml.
20. SOLUTIONS CORRECTING WATER, ELECTROLYTE AND ACID-BASE DISTURBANCES	
20.1 Oral	
oral rehydration salts	See section 14.3.1
20.2 Parenteral	
glucose (dextrose)	Injectable solution: 5% (isotonic); 10% (hypertonic); 50% (hypertonic).
potassium chloride	Solution for dilution: 7.5% (equivalent to K ⁺ 1 mmol/ml and Cl ⁻ 1 mmol/ml); 15% (equivalent to K ⁺ 2 mmol/ml and Cl ⁻ 2 mmol/ml).
ringer lactate solution	Injectable solution: sodium lactate 0.32 gm, potassium chloride 0.4 gm, sodium chloride 0.6 gm, calcium chloride 0.027 gm in 100 ml solution.
sodium bicarbonate	Injection: 8.4% in 10 ml ampoule (equivalent to Na ⁺ 1000 mmol/l, HCO ₃ ⁻ 1000 mmol/l).
sodium chloride (normal saline)	Injectable solution: 0.9% isotonic (equivalent to Na ⁺ 154 mmol/l and Cl ⁻ 154 mmol/l).
sodium chloride (half-normal saline) + glucose(dextrose)	Injectable solution: 0.45% sodium chloride and 5% dextrose.
20.3 Miscellaneous	
water for injection	5 ml; 10 ml ampoules.

21. VITAMINS AND MINERALS	
cholecalciferol	Solid oral dosage form: 400 IU; 1000 IU. Injection: 300,000 IU; 600,000 IU.
multivitamin*	Tablet: containing vitamin B1, vitamin B2, vitamin B6, niacinamide, pantothenate, folic acid, ascorbic acid, and biotin. *strengths of individual components to be chosen according to local availability.
vitamin A	Oral oily solution: 100,000 IU (as palmitate)/ml in multidose dispenser. Tablet: 50,000 IU. Capsule: 50,000 IU; 100,000 IU (as palmitate).
vitamin K	Tablet: 10 mg. Injection: 1 mg/ml (as phytomenadione).
22. EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CONDITIONS IN CHILDREN	
budesonide	Nasal spray: 50 micrograms per dose.
ciprofloxacin	Topical: 0.3% drops (as hydrochloride).
xylometazoline	Nasal drops: 0.05% in 5 ml.

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