The following are the latest editions of the Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) and Essential Medicines List (EML):

STGs and EML 2020 Edition (plus updated chapters ratified by NEMLC)

STGs and EML 2019 Edition (plus updated chapters ratified by NEMLC)

STGs and EML 2023 Edition

EML October 2023 Edition

The following formats of the STGs and EML are accepted by the National Department of Health (NDoH):

	the 2024 edition, therapeutic interchange database, notices of errata from the 2019 edition, EML based on the 2019 edition
Hospital Level, Hospital, Tertiary & Quaternary, Tertiary, Quaternary, Medicine Recommendations, Medicine Reviews, Costing Reports	of the STGs & EML medicine reviews, costing reports, latest Tertiary and Quaternary EML medicine reviews and costing documents in separate folders but same key words
Health Technology Assessment, Health Technology, HTA, Essential Medicines List	HTA Methods Guide, HTA Methods Guide Templates
Medicine reviews, reviews, costing reports, costing,	Different folders for Paediatrics, Adult and Tertiary & Quaternary Contains all medicine reviews
	and costing reports per level of care, except PHClevel
Notice for Comment, Notice Comment, PHC, Adult, Paediatric, Hospital Level, STGs, EML	Current notices for all levels of care these notices are removed once comment period is closed
NEMLC, National Essential, Essential Medicines, Committee	Member photos & bios, policies, terms of reference, bulletins
Affordable Medicines Groulars, Affordable Medicines, Groulars	2022 and 2023 circulars

NATIONAL ESSENTIAL MEDIQNES LIST COMMITTEE (NEMLC) BULLETIN FOR THE MEETING HELD ON 12 OCTOBER 2023

inclusion on the EML for hypercalcaemia in 2007. Pamidronate, however, has been discontinued in South African and thus the need arose to evaluate the other registered intravenous bisphosphonates (zoledronate and ibandronate) to establish an appropriate recommendation in the absence of pamidronate. Although the quality of evidence found was low to moderate, both zoledronate and ibandronate demonstrated the ability to achieve normocalcaemia. The Tertiary Hospital Level ERC recommended that zoledronate and ibandronate be considered a therapeutic class for hypercalcaemia. NEMLC approved this recommendation.

The limited medicine review on use of gemcitabine in a subset of patients with unresectable pancreatic cancer was presented for discussion. Gemcitabine was previously reviewed in 2012 for advanced pancreatic cancer. At this time, it was not approved for inclusion on the EML due to the small survival benefit in relation to the cost of the agent. A review indicator of price was set. The price of gemcitabine has reduced over the past 10 years, prompting the re-evaluation of gemcitabine for this indication. NEMLC approved the inclusion of gemcitabine monotherapy for a select group of patients with unresectable or metastatic pancreatic cancer.

Final reports are published on the Knowledge Hub's eLibrary, refer to Annexure A, page 7 and 8 for a guide on how to access the documents on the Knowledge Hub.

⁻ The following has been reviewed.

Guide on how to access the Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines List and related technical documents on Knowledge Hub







