

ESSENTIAL DRUGS

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INTRODUCTION TO ESSENTIAL DRUGS

**Drugs that satisfy the healthcare needs
of the majority of the population.**

Criteria for Selection:

- ☐ Efficacy and safety
- ☐ Cost-effectiveness
- ☐ Availability and accessibility



Essential Drug List (EDL)

WHO EDL: First published in 1977, regularly updated.

Importance:

- ☐ Standardized treatment
- ☐ Cost management
- ☐ Public health improvement

National Essential Medicines List (NEML): Role in India's healthcare system.

Classification of Essential Drugs

Based on Therapeutic Use:

- ❑ Antimicrobials: Antibiotics, Antifungals, Antivirals
- ❑ Analgesics and Antipyretics: Paracetamol, Ibuprofen
- ❑ Antihypertensives: ACE inhibitors, Beta-blockers
- ❑ Antidiabetics: Insulin, Metformin

Based on Drug Categories:

- ☐ Life-saving drugs
- ☐ Basic healthcare drugs
- ☐ Chronic disease management drugs



Adverse Drug Reactions (ADRs)

Types of ADRs:

- ☐ Predictable (e.g., dose-related toxicity)
- ☐ Unpredictable (e.g., allergic reactions)

Management: Identifying, reporting, and preventing ADRs.



Rational Use of Essential Drugs

- ❑ Using the right drug, in the right dose, for the right duration, at the lowest cost.
- ❑ **Polypharmacy Risks:** Avoiding overprescribing and drug interactions.
- ❑ **WHO Guidelines:** Promoting rational drug use in healthcare.

Conclusion

Summary: Essential drugs form the cornerstone of effective healthcare delivery.

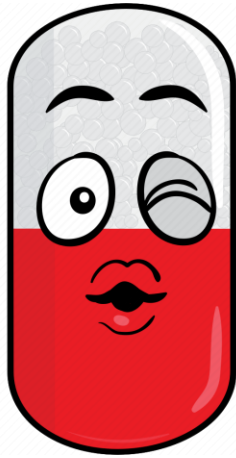
Understanding essential drugs ensures optimal patient care and resource utilization.



References

Textbook:

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THANK YOU