



**SOUTH AFRICAN PRIMARY HEALTHCARE LEVEL ESSENTIAL MEDICINES LIST
CHAPTER 2: GASTROINTESTINAL CONDITIONS
NEMLC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEDICINE AMENDMENTS (2020)**

Medicine amendment recommendations, with supporting evidence and rationale are listed below. Kindly review the medicine amendments in the context of the complete chapter for gastrointestinal conditions. Note: This primary healthcare chapter has been updated to align to previous NEMLC recommendations as well as the recent NEMLC-approved Adult Hospital Level STGs and EML, 2019 edition.

SECTION	MEDICINE/MANAGEMENT	ADDED/DELETED/AMENDED/NOT ADDED/ RETAINED
2.7 Cholera		
- Adults	Ciprofloxacin, oral	Dosing amended
- Children	Ciprofloxacin, oral	Dosing amended

2.7 CHOLERA

Antibiotic therapy

Adults:

Ciprofloxacin, oral: dosing amended

National Institute of Communicable Diseases reported decreasing susceptibility of *V. cholera* to ciprofloxacin, with increasing MIC⁵⁰ for ciprofloxacin bordering on the EUCAST cut-off of 0.250 µg/ml¹, with two recent 2020 cases in KwaZulu Natal². Thus, an extended 3-day course of ciprofloxacin (500mg 12 hourly) is recommended.

Level of Evidence: III Antibiotic susceptibility data

Children:

Ciprofloxacin, oral: dosing amended

Aligned with the Paediatric Hospital Level STGs and EML, 2017

Level of Evidence: III Guidelines

¹ National Institute for Communicable Diseases. Data on file, 2020.

² NICD. Communicable Diseases Communiqué, January 2020, Vol. 19 (1). <http://www.nicd.ac.za/>