

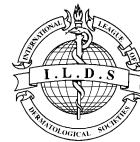


**Table -** Main compounds for a revised list of essential dermatologic drugs. Former inclusion in the WHO essential drugs list, or not, is indicated

<b>Class of drug – status in former WHO list</b>	<b>Drug</b>	<b>Indications</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>Oral (and parenteral) antibiotics</b>			
Present in former list	Cloxacillin (oral, adults and pediatric forms)	Pyoderma Cellulitis	1st line treatment
Present in former list	Amoxicillin (oral, adults and pediatric forms)	Pyoderma  Cellulitis	1st line treatment where <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> predominates
Present in former list	Erythromycin (oral, adults and pediatric forms)	Pyoderma Cellulitis	2nd line treatment
Present in former list	Doxycycline (oral)	Acne	
Present in former list	Benzylpenicillin (IV-IM)	Cellulitis	
<b>Topical antibiotics</b>			
Present in former list	Silver Sulfadiazine (1% cream)	Pyoderma (lighter forms) Sores	Useful to remove crusts
Could be removed from former list	Neomycin sulfate + bacitracin ointment	Pyoderma (lighter forms)	2nd line treatment because of potentially serious adverse effects
To be added to former list	Tetracycline (3% ointment)	Pyoderma (lighter forms) Sores	Useful to remove crusts – Cheap and widely available
<b>Oral antimycotics</b>			



<b>Class of drug – status in former WHO list</b>	<b>Drug</b>	<b>Indications</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Present in former list	Griseofulvin (oral)	Tinea capitis and more severe variants of dermatophytosis	Cheap
To be added to former list	Terbinafine (oral)	More severe variants of dermatophytosis	More expensive but generic forms recently available
<b>Topical antimycotics</b>			
Present in former list	Miconazole (cream)	Dermatophytosis and candidiasis	Possible interaction with oral antivitamin K (if used on buccal mucosae)
To be added to former list	Econazole (cream)	Dermatophytosis and candidiasis	Widely available – No interaction
Present in former list	Benzoic acid + salicylic acid (Whietfields's oinment)	Dermatophytosis	2nd line treatment
<b>Antiseptics</b>			
Present in former list	Povidone iodine (10% solution)	Pyoderma (lighter forms)	1st line treatment - cheap
Present in former list	Chlorhexidine (solution)	Pyoderma (lighter forms)	1st line treatment
Present in former list	Gentian violet (0.5% in alcohol or water)	Pyoderma (lighter forms)	2nd line treatment - very cheap - may rarely have irritant adverse effects
Present in former list	Potassium permanganate (1/10,000 in aqueous solution)	Pyoderma (lighter forms)	2nd line treatment - very cheap
<b>Antiviral drugs</b>			
Present in former list	Aciclovir (oral) (200 mg)	Herpes	
<b>Scabicides</b>			
Present in former list	Permethrin (cream, solution)	Common scabies Lice	1st line treatment
Present in former list	10-25% benzyl benzoate	Common scabies	1st line treatment
To be added to former list	Lindane (cream, lotion)	Common scabies  Body lice	2nd line treatment - Toxic if incorrectly used
Present in former list (as a filaricide drug)	Ivermectin (oral, 3mg and 6 mg)	Common scabies  Crusted scabies	2nd line treatment (should be given at 200 µg/kg (2 weeks apart) 1st line treatment



<b>Class of drug – status in former WHO list</b>	<b>Drug</b>	<b>Indications</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>Topical steroids</b>			
Present in former list	1% hydrocortisone (cream)	Atopic and contact dermatitis Psoriasis	low-potent
Present in former list	0.1% bethamethasone (cream)	Atopic and contact dermatitis Psoriasis	high-potent
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
Present in former list	Chlorpheniramine (oral, 4 mg)	Urticaria Prurigo	
Present in former list	Salicylic acid preparations	Psoriasis (10% in cream) Acne	
Present in former list	Benzoyl peroxide (cream or lotion, 5%)	Acne	
Present in former list	Calamine lotion	Localized itching	
To be added to former list	Crotamiton oinment	Localized itching	Widely available
Present in former list	Urea (5% or 10%, cream or oinment)	Xerosis Atopic dermatitis	
To be added to former list	Petrolatum	Xerosis	Very cheap
Could be removed from former list	Dithranol preparations	Psoriasis	Highly caustic if not used with caution