

Standard Operating Procedure to authorise prescription and dispensing of Medical Cannabinoid Preparations

Such procedure is in accordance with article 10(1) of the Drug Dependence (Treatment not Imprisonment) Act:-

“A licensed medical practitioner who is duly registered in accordance with the Health Care Professions Act, shall be entitled to prescribe to patients medicinal preparations of the plant cannabis and synthetic cannabinoid products licensed under the Medicines Act or manufactured under Good Manufacturing Practice, if it is considered that there is no viable alternative to such prescription due account being taken of any protocols which may be in force from time to time in respect of the prescription of medicines, of the interests of the patient and of the costs.”

- 1) As per the quoted law excerpt, the following conditions are to be met:
 - a) Any cannabinoid preparations requested are to comply with the Medicines Act or manufactured under Good Manufacturing Practice
 - b) All licensed medical practitioners are entitled to prescribe medical cannabis

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- 2) The application for the use of medical cannabinoid, duly filled in, is to be sent by the medical practitioner to the generic email address medicalpanel.sph@gov.mt at the office of the Superintendent of Public Health

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- 3) The application is processed by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Health (SPH)

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- 4) Medical Practitioner receive a copy of the application endorsed by SPH if the request is approved.
If not approved he/she will also be notified, stating the reason why the application was refused.

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- 5) Medical Practitioner fills in green prescription form and control card
Application form endorsed by SPH is to be kept by Patient

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- 6) Pharmacist dispenses product from a licenced pharmacy upon receipt of green prescription form, control card and endorsed application form by SPH.

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- 7) Pharmacists are to keep records including patient details; date, product dispensed, dose and amount; and details of the prescribing doctor (name and registration number)