



Our Ref.

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DH Circular No 84/05

11th May 2005

Attention all Medical Officers
Pharmacists
Nurses

Re: Review of Chapter of Ulcer Healing Drugs

The chapter of Ulcer Healing Drugs within the Formulary of the Government Health Services has been revised with the aim to optimise patient therapy.
The following changes have been made:

ITEMS DELETED		
	'Old Status'	Recommendations
Cimetidine Tablets	GP list	Item will be replaced by Ranitidine Tablets
Cimetidine Syrup	Requests approved by Chairman DTC	Item will be replaced by Ranitidine Syrup (Request for 'non-formulary' still required)
Cimetidine Injection	Formulary - Hospital Item	Item will be replaced by ranitidine injections
Magnesium Carbonate Tablets	Formulary	
Magnesium Carbonate and Citric Acid Sachets	Formulary	
Tripotassium dicitratobismuthate	Formulary	

Stocks of the above-mentioned items will no longer be procured and the items will remain available within Government Health Services until stocks last.

CHANGE IN 'FORMULARY STATUS'			
ITEM	'OLD' STATUS	'NEW' STATUS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
Ranitidine Tablets	Formulary - Schedule V to be endorsed by Consultant	GP list - available to pink card holders	
Omeprazole 20mg Capsules	Non-Formulary 'Request for non-formulary' required'	Formulary - Schedule V to be filled in by Consultant	A request for non-formulary items will no longer be required.

Whenever possible omeprazole will be dispensed through Health Centre dispensaries in the coming weeks. Patients are to continue to call at the Out-Patients' Dispensary at St Luke's Hospital to collect this medicine until they are specifically directed by the staff at this dispensary to collect their medicines from a Health Centre Dispensary.

All above changes need to comply with entitlement criteria as specified by the Department of Health.

For your information please,

Dr R Busuttill
Director General (Health)