



DIRECTORATE FOR PHARMACEUTICAL POLICY AND MONITORING
Strategy and Sustainability Division
Ministry for Social Policy

MSOC/HEC Circular No 102/2008
Ref df05/08

1st October 2008

Attention all Consultants
Medical Officers
Pharmacists
Nurses

Re: Directorate for Pharmaceutical Policy and Monitoring (DPPM)

Kindly note that the Directorate for Pharmaceutical Policy and Monitoring (DPPM) within the Strategy and Sustainability Division is now situated at St. Luke's Hospital, G'Mangia.

Please note the new telephone number: 2595 5232
Email address: dppm.mhec@gov.mt

Overall Functions and Objectives

The pharmaceutical policy and monitoring directorate has the mission of developing equitable and sustainable pharmaceutical policies for Malta. It is also tasked to ensure that these policies are implemented effectively through continual and systematic monitoring.

- Formulate, monitor and evaluate pharmaceutical policies to be implemented in the Government Health Service within the framework of a National Health Policy and international pharmaceutical practices
- Be responsible for the implementation of EU legislation in the field of formulary management
- Establish, maintain and periodically review the Government National Formulary for pharmaceuticals and surgical materials for the Government Health service
- Process requests on a named patient basis for medicinal products that are not available on the Government National Formulary
- Optimise analysis of information and evaluation of clinical evidence in order to draw up prescribing guidelines and develop a systematic rational approach to prescribing and drug use through the use of international health technology assessment
- Set service wide protocols governing prescribing and the rational use of medicines
- Audit prescribing policies set by the Government Formulary List Advisory Committee, assess the results of the audit and submit recommendations for necessary action
- Give advice and provide technical assistance in the establishment of technical specifications for the procurement of medicines, surgical devices and related technology
- Issue circulars related to formulary management and correspondence with the various



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stakeholders

- Participation at international meetings and projects, in line with the exigencies of the department.
- Contribute to the availability and fair pricing for government pharmaceuticals. Moreover drug prices across the EU counties can be monitored and followed accordingly.
- Be responsible for administration of the Schedule V office. Periodically review of the entitlement processes and recommend policy options to streamline procedures, improve efficiency, decrease bureaucracy and offer optimal customer oriented services.
- Develop and maintain an entitlement system for pharmaceuticals. A system where entitlement is universal in application, can easily be audited and monitored and cost contained. Integrate all sources of medicine entitlement including – Schedule V, Protocol regulated permits, POYC registration control and mean-tested entitlement. An entitlement database center which can be linked to all government dispensing points – POYC, PHCD, MDH, and other government hospitals

For your attention please

Isabelle Zahra Pulis
Director