



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

MSOC/HEC Circular No 88/2008

28TH August 2008

Attention all Consultants
Medical Officers
Pharmacists
Nurses

**Re: INTRODUCTION OF PRESCRIBING PROTOCOL FOR GLYCOPEPTIDES and
NEW REQUEST FORM FOR RESERVE ANTIBIOTICS**

In line with recommendations from the World Health Organisation and Centers for Disease Control and in consultation with the Antibiotic Team of Mater Dei Hospital, glycopeptides (i.e. vancomycin and teicoplanin) have been reclassified as protocol-regulated pharmaceuticals.

The indications for use of these antibiotics are outlined in the protocol which has been posted in the Infection Control Unit protocol webpage in the Kura website. It can be viewed or downloaded from the following link:

<http://www.kura.gov.mt/imaging/getpoliciesresource.asp?id=1917>

This link is accessible anywhere within the hospital IT system without the need for username or password.

Requisitions for indications other than those included in the protocol require endorsement by a member of the MDH Antibiotic Team namely:

Dr. C. Mallia Azzopardi & Dr. T. Piscopo:	Infectious Disease Physicians
Prof. P. Cuschieri & Dr. P. Caruana:	Consultant Microbiologists
Dr. M.A. Borg	Consultant (Infection Control)

Furthermore in order to facilitate the paperwork required to prescribe these antimicrobials as well as other reserve antibiotics, a dedicated form has been produced which necessitates less writing on the part of the consultant or senior registrar since it is structured to be completed using tick boxes.

This form is henceforth to be used when requesting any reserve antibiotic. It can be downloaded and printed from:

<http://www.kura.gov.mt/imaging/getformresource.asp?id=1920>

Your cooperation is kindly solicited. Should you require further information, please contact the MDH Antibiotic Pharmacist (Mr. Peter Zarb) on ext 4557 or pager 357 4512

For your attention please

Isabelle Zahra Pulis
Director
DPPM