



**Strategy and Sustainability Division
MINISTRY FOR SOCIAL POLICY**

DH CIRCULAR No. 259/2009

DH 4070/2009

26 October 2009

Attention all Consultants
Medical Officers
Pharmacists
Pharmacy Technicians
Nurses

Re: Switching over of Epilim® EC tablets to Epilim® Chrono tablets

The SPC for Epilim® Chrono Controlled Release tablets states that:

"In patients where adequate control has been achieved, Epilim® Chrono formulations are interchangeable with other conventional or prolonged release formulations on an equivalent daily dosage basis."

The following switchover mechanism is recommended. The Epilim Enteric Coated formulation can be smoothly changed over to Epilim® Chrono Controlled Release tablets as indicated below to EITHER *a daily nocte dose in (A)* OR *a bd dose in (B)*.

Switch from EC tablets to Chrono tablets: Treatment schedule

A) Towards Epilim® Chrono [CR] once a day:

	day 0	day 1	day 2	day 3	day X
morning	EC	EC	CR	CR	
midday	EC	EC	CR		
evening	EC	CR	CR	2*(CR)	3*(CR)

Epilim® Chrono [CR] (treatment schedule for intakes by mg and not tablets)

B) Towards Epilim® Chrono [CR] twice a day:

	day 0	day 1	day 2	day 3	day X
morning	EC	EC	CR	CR	CR
midday	EC	EC	CR		
evening	EC	CR	CR	2*(CR)	2*(CR)

Epilim® Chrono [CR] (treatment schedule for intakes by mg and not tablets)



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Patients will be advised regarding this three-day switch by the pharmacists working within the public Outpatient Pharmacies and the POYC private pharmacies. Switching over examples include the following:

Towards Epilim® Chrono [CR] once a day/twice a day:

	day 0	day 1	day 2	day 3	day X*	day X*
morning	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *		X // / O * + % *
midday	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *			
evening	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *

*Shaded areas (day X) pictures alternatives (A) or (B).

	day 0	day 1	day 2	day 3	day X*	day X*
morning	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *		/ // / O * + % *
midday	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *			
evening	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *

*Shaded areas (day X) pictures alternatives (A) or (B).

	day 0	day 1	day 2	day X*	day X*
morning	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % *		/ // / O * + % *
midday					
evening	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *	/ // / O * + % * X // / O * + % *	X // / O * + % *

*Shaded areas (day X) pictures alternatives (A) or (B)

In case of difficulty or where monitoring is deemed necessary, patients are to be referred to the Consultant Neurologists.

Instructions for Use

The tablets should be swallowed whole and not crushed or chewed.

The Epilim® Chrono Controlled Release tablets should not be removed from their foil until immediately before they are taken and where possible, blister strips should not be cut.

Please find leaflet issued by the company explaining switching over attached.

Thank you for your cooperation.



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For your attention please.

Dr Natasha Azzopardi Muscat
Director General



EPILIM[®] chrono

valproate



**A Galenic Innovation :
a controlled release
for an better
pharmacokinetic profile**

Reduces peak serum drug concentrations leading to 50% decrease in fluctuations of peak/trough level⁽¹⁾

Reduces the frequency and severity of the side-effects like tremor, drowsiness, light head and diplopia⁽²⁾

A convenient once-daily dose for better epilepsy control in monotherapy and polytherapy^(2,3)

**A Galenic Innovation :
a largely
evidenced efficacy**

Effective in all seizure types⁽⁴⁾

- in newly adjusted patients
- in previously treated patients

"Excellent" tolerance⁽⁵⁾

- considerable reduction of side-effects
- adverse reactions in only 4% of patients

Very good compliance⁽⁶⁾

**A Galenic Innovation :
a controlled release
for an optimal
profile prescription***

Sustained plasma levels over 24 hours within the therapeutic range

No dosage titration necessary
Easier management of treatment
Easier dosing adjustment⁽⁷⁾

Conventional valproate could immediately be replaced by the same dose of chrono valproate without loss of seizure control^(8,9)

	Day 0	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day X
MORNING					
MIDDAY					
EVENING					