



Strategy and Sustainability Division
MINISTRY FOR HEALTH, THE ELDERLY AND COMMUNITY CARE

DH CIRCULAR No.107/2011

DH 2125/2011

10th May, 2011

Attention all Consultants
Medical Officers
Pharmacists
Pharmacy Technicians
Nurses

Re: New Antacid compound preparation

GHPS is currently procuring an antacid compound preparation containing sodium alginate 500mg per tablet. The following table summarizes the essential details of both the previous and currently procured antacid compound preparations as per the respective Summary of Product Characteristics (SPCs).

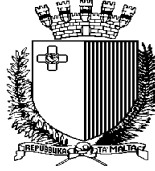
	Antacid compound preparation <i>previously</i> procured	Antacid compound preparation <i>currently</i> procured
Composition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sodium alginate 250mg• sodium hydrogen carbonate 133.5mg• calcium carbonate 80mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sodium alginate 500mg• potassium bicarbonate 100mg
Excipients	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peppermint flavour• Macrogol 20,000• Mannitol (E421)• Aspartame (E951)• Acesulfame potassium (E950)• Magnesium stearate• Copovidone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mannitol• Calcium carbonate• Macrogol 20,000• Magnesium stearate• Aspartame• Mint flavour no. 3• Acesulfame potassium• Copovidone
Method of Administration	Adults and children 12 years and over: Two to four tablets after meals and at bedtime	Adults and children 12 years and over: One to two tablets thoroughly chewed after meals and at bedtime
Interactions	Due to the presence of calcium carbonate which acts as an antacid, a time-interval of 2 hours should be considered between intake and the administration of other medicinal products	None known Please note that calcium carbonate is still present within the excipients

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Warnings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sodium content of a four-tablet dose is 246mg• The calcium content of a four-tablet dose is 320 mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sodium content of a two-tablet dose is 103mg• The calcium content of a two-tablet dose is 200mg• May cause central nervous system depression in the presence of renal insufficiency and should not be used in patients with renal failure.
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Thank you

For your attention, please

Dr Natasha Azzopardi Muscat
Director General