



*L-Uffiċċju tal-Uffiċjal Mediku Ewlieni*

*Office of the Chief Medical Officer*

**DH CIRCULAR No.150/2014**  
DH 1738/2014

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2014

**Attention All:** Consultants  
Medical Officers  
Pharmacists  
Pharmacy Technicians  
Nurses

**Re: Amendment of the Fifth Schedule of the Social Security Act**

It is being brought to your attention that Part II of the Fifth Schedule of the Social Security Act was amended to further include Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and Fibromyalgia (Annex 1).

These legislative changes increased the number of chronic illnesses that entitle patients to free medicines from 79 to 81. Patients suffering from Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and/or Fibromyalgia are entitled to free medication, for the treatment of their condition, available on the Government Formulary List.

The Schedule V application Form was updated to reflect these changes and is available [online](#). The application Form may be sent to the *Medicines Approval Section* - POYC Unit, or filled in online. It is important that it is accompanied by any relevant documentation and existing Schedule V card/s.

Old application forms which are still in circulation should be discarded and replaced with copies of the new application form. A phasing out period is being allowed during which all the request forms will be accepted; however, as of **19<sup>th</sup> May 2014 only the new Form will be considered as valid and accepted.**

The *Medicines Approval Section* - POYC Unit may be contacted on telephone number 21232424 or the **new** generic email address [scheduleV.poyc@gov.mt](mailto:scheduleV.poyc@gov.mt). Kindly also note that the opening hours of the Medicines Approval Section have been extended as follows: **Monday to Friday from 08.00hrs to 13.00hrs**

Thank you  
For your attention, please

Dr. Neville Calleja  
A/Chief Medical Officer

**L.N. 79 of 2014****SOCIAL SECURITY ACT  
(CAP. 318)****Social Security Act (Amendment of Fifth Schedule)  
Regulations, 2014**

IN exercise of the powers conferred upon her by article 84 of the Social Security Act, the Minister for the Family and Social Solidarity, with the concurrence of the Minister for Finance, has made the following regulations:-

Citation.                   **1.** The title of these regulations is the Social Security Act (Amendment of Fifth Schedule) Regulations, 2014, and these regulations shall be read and construed as one with the Fifth Schedule to the Social Security Act, hereinafter referred to as "the Fifth Schedule".

Cap. 318.

Amendment of  
the Fifth  
Schedule.

**2.** In point 12 of Part II of the Fifth Schedule, under the heading "Rheumatic Diseases", immediately after the item "(i) Polymyalgia Rheumatica" there shall be added the following two new items:

"(j) Myalgic Encephalomyelitis

(k) Fibromyalgia".

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