



Direttorat tat-Tabib Ewlieni tal-Gvern

Office of the Chief Medical Officer

DH CIRCULAR No.367/2015
DH 1556/2012

17th August 2015

Attention All: Consultants
Medical Officers
Pharmacists
Pharmacy Technicians
Nurses

RE: Updated Government Formulary List (July 2015)

The Directorate for Pharmaceutical Affairs (DPA) ensures quality in drug utilization through the ongoing management of the Government Formulary List. The main objective is to optimize patient care through the rational use of drugs within the healthcare setting.

The Government Formulary List is reviewed and updated periodically through the removal and addition of medicines, changes in medicines' protocols and amendments in entitlement and prescriber criteria.

The DPA has now issued the updated Government Formulary List (July 2015) on the following website [link](#). The updated protocols are listed on the following website [link](#).

The list of changes in this issue can be found in Annex I.

Feedback regarding the Government Formulary List can be sent through the DPA generic email: dpa.meh-health@gov.mt

For your attention, please.

Dr Denis Vella Baldacchino
Chief Medical Officer

List of Changes

| Out Patients Formulary | |
|--|---|
| Drug Name | Change |
| Benztropine Mesylate 2mg Tablets | Officially deleted. Item available until stocks last. |
| Budesonide 100mcg/ Dose Dry Powder Metered Dose Inhaler | Updated dosage form (removed 'breath-actuated') |
| Budesonide 50mcg/dose Inhaler | Deleted from Formulary |
| Calcium 1250mg (equivalent to 500mg elemental calcium) Chewable Tablets or Tablets | Changed dosage strength and dosage form |
| Calcium Folate (Leucovorin/Folinic Acid) 15mg Tablets | Added 'TBDF Hospitals only in Malignant Diseases' |
| Captopril 50mg Tablets | Deleted from Formulary |
| Carbidopa 25mg + Levodopa 250mg Tablets | Officially deleted. Item available until stocks last. |
| Domperidone 10mg Tablets and 1mg/ml Suspension | Removed Parkinson's Disease, Gastro-Oesophageal Reflux Disease, Diabetes Mellitus Type 1 and Diabetes Mellitus Type 2 from Schedule V Entitlement |
| Domperidone 30mg Suppositories | Deleted from Formulary |
| Elemental Formulas (e.g. Elemental 028® Extra) Powder | Removed Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists from the prescriber criteria |
| Elemental Infant Formula (e.g. Neocate® LCP) Powder | Removed Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists from the prescriber criteria |
| Emulsifying Ointment BP | Can now also be dispensed from SVPR pharmacy |
| Flavoxate 200mg Tablets | Deleted from Formulary |
| Gluten Free Dietary Items Voucher Scheme for Coeliac Patients | Changed prescriber criteria from Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists to Consultant Paediatricians |
| Levetiracetam 100mg/mL Syrup | Added Consultant Palliative Care to the prescriber criteria |
| Oral Rehydration Powder | Added Malignant Diseases to Schedule V Entitlement |
| Paediatric Liquid Food Preparation (e.g. Paediasure®, Nutriini®) Liquid | Changed prescriber criteria from Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists to Consultant Paediatricians |
| Pancreatin Capsules (Creon 25,000U) | Added to Formulary |
| Paroxetine 20mg Tablets | Added Consultant Oncologists to the prescriber criteria |
| Permethrin Preparation for Treatment of Head Lice and Nits 1% w/w | Updated name |

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| Phenoxybenzamine 10mg Capsules | Added Consultant Oncologists to the prescriber criteria and added Malignant Diseases to Schedule V Entitlement |
| Phytomenadione (Vitamin K1) 10mg/ml and 10mg/ml in 0.2ml Injections | Added Malignant Diseases to Schedule V Entitlement |
| Pyridoxine Hydrochloride 10mg or 20mg Tablets | Updated dosage strength |

| Hospital Formulary | |
|--|---|
| Drug Name | Change |
| Benztropine Mesylate 2mg Tablets | Officially deleted. Item available until stocks last. |
| Budesonide 100mcg/ Dose Dry Powder Metered Dose Inhaler | Updated dosage form (removed 'breath-actuated') |
| Budesonide 50mcg/dose Inhaler | Deleted from Formulary |
| Calcium 1250mg (equivalent to 500mg elemental calcium) Chewable Tablets or Tablets | Changed dosage strength and dosage form |
| Calcium Folate (Leucovorin/Folinic Acid) 15mg Tablets | Added 'To be Dispensed from Hospitals only in Malignant Diseases' |
| Calcium Hydroxide min. 90% A.I. Powder | Deleted from Formulary |
| Captopril 50mg Tablets | Deleted from Formulary |
| Carbidopa 25mg + Levodopa 250mg Tablets | Officially deleted. Item available until stocks last. |
| Diethylenetriamine Pentacetate (DTPA) Injection V09 | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Dimercaptosuccinic Acid (DMSA) Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Domperidone 30mg Suppositories | Deleted from Formulary |
| Elemental Formulas (e.g. Elemental 028® Extra) Powder | Removed Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists from the prescriber criteria |
| Elemental Infant Formula (e.g. Neocate® LCP) Powder | Removed Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists from the prescriber criteria |
| Emulsifying Ointment BP | Can now also be dispensed from SVPR pharmacy |
| Etamsylate 1g Injection | Deleted from Formulary |
| Exametazime 0.5mg Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Flavoxate 200mg Tablets | Deleted from Formulary |
| Fuller's Earth Powder | Deleted from Formulary |
| Gallium 67-Citrate Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Gluten Free Dietary Items Voucher Scheme for Coeliac Patients | Changed prescriber criteria from Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists to Consultant Paediatricians |
| Guanethidine 10mg Injections | Marked as 'Stand-by' |
| Indium-111 labelled Octreotide Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Iodine Weak Solution | Deleted from Formulary |
| Iodine-131-metaiodobenzylguanidine (MIBG I-131) Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Levetiracetam 100mg/mL Syrup | Added Consultant Palliative Care to the prescriber criteria |
| Mebrofenin 40mg Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |

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| Medronic Acid (Methylene Diphosphonate) Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Methionine 500mg Tablets | Deleted from Formulary |
| Mitomycin 10mg Injections | Added Consultant Urologists and Consultant Ophthalmologists to the prescriber criteria |
| Paediatric Liquid Food Preparation (e.g. Paediasure®, Nutriini®) Liquid | Changed prescriber criteria from Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists to Consultant Paediatricians |
| Pancreatin Capsules (Creon 25,000U) | Added to Formulary |
| Paroxetine 20mg Tablets | Added Consultant Oncologists to the prescriber criteria |
| Permethrin Preparation for Treatment of Head Lice and Nits 1% w/w | Updated name |
| Permethrin Topical Preparation for Treatment of Scabies 5% w/w | Updated name |
| Phenoxybenzamine 10mg Capsules | Added Consultant Oncologists to the prescriber criteria |
| Potash Aluminium (Aluminium Potassium Sulphate 10% w/v Sterile Solution for Injection | Deleted from Formulary |
| Pyridoxine Hydrochloride 10mg or 20mg Tablets | Updated dosage strength |
| Sodium Chloride 0.9% w/v by 5ml for Technetium Generator | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Sodium Iodide I-131 Capsules | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Tannic Acid Powder | Deleted from Formulary |
| Technetium (Tc-99m) Macroaggregated Albumin (MAA) Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Technetium (Tc-99m) Phytate Injections | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Technetium (Tc-99m) Rhenium Sulphide Colloid Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Technetium (Tc-99m) Sestamibi Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Technetium (Tc-99m) Stannous Agent Injection | Added to Hospital Formulary |
| Technetium-99m Generator | Added to Hospital Formulary |

| Protocols | |
|---|---|
| Protocol Name | Change |
| Protocol 25: Budesonide 50mcg Inhaler | Deleted Protocol |
| Protocol 27: Budesonide 100mcg Dry Powder Metered Dose Inhaler | Updated dosage form |
| Protocol 56: Domperidone 10mg Tablets | Deleted Protocol |
| Protocol 57: Domperidone 5mg/5mL Syrup | Updated Protocol |
| Protocol 61: Elemental Formula (<i>Elemental 028 Extra</i> [®]) | Removed Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists from the prescriber criteria |
| Protocol 62: Elemental Infant Formula (<i>Neocate</i> [®] Infant Formula) | Removed Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists from the prescriber criteria |
| Protocol 77: Fluticasone 50mcg Inhaler | Amended Protocol |
| Protocol 85: Gluten Free Dietary Items Voucher Scheme for Coeliac Patients | Changed prescriber criteria from Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists to Consultant Paediatricians |
| Protocol 101: Insulin Glargine Cartridges, Pens and Needles | Updated Protocol |
| Protocol 116: Levetiracetam 100mg/mL Oral Solution | Added Consultant Palliative Care to the prescriber criteria |
| Protocol 158: Paediatric Liquid Food Preparation | Changed prescriber criteria from Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologists to Consultant Paediatricians |
| Protocol 207: Insulin Aspart Cartridges | Updated Protocol |
| Protocol 223: Oxaliplatin Vials | Deleted Protocol |
| Protocol 224: Irinotecan Vials | Deleted Protocol |
| Protocol 238: Phenoxybenzamine 10mg Capsules | Added Consultant Oncologists to the prescriber criteria and amended protocol |
| Protocol 245: Permethrin 5% w/w Topical Preparation for Treatment of Scabies | Updated name |
| Protocol 246: Ondansetron 4mg and 8mg Injections | Deleted Protocol |
| Protocol 267: Cyclizine 50mg/mL Ampoules | Updated Protocol |