



MINISTRY for HEALTH  
15, PALAZZO CASTELLANIA, MERCHANTS STREET, VALLETTA, MALTA

**DH CIRCULAR No. 10/2017**  
DH 3737/2015

**1<sup>st</sup> February 2017**

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

**Re: Capecitabine 150 mg and 500 mg Tablets**

As part of the new Government initiative to introduce new medical treatment for Oncology patients, please note that as from today, the clinical indications for the use of Capecitabine tablets have been extended.

Capecitabine are currently available on the Government Formulary List as 150 mg and 500 mg tablets and can be prescribed by Consultant Oncologists. They are regulated with protocol 31 which has been updated to include the new indications as per Annex 1.

For your attention please.

Dr. Denis Vella Baldacchino  
Chief Medical Officer

## **Capecitabine 150mg and 500mg Tablets**

**Prescriber Criteria:** Consultant Oncologist

**Out-patient and In-patient use:**

1. Malignant Diseases

- ***Breast Cancer***

To be used as monotherapy for the treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer after failure of taxanes and an anthracycline-containing chemotherapy regimen or for whom further anthracycline therapy is not indicated.

- ***Colon/colorectal Cancer***

To be reserved for patients with locally advanced or metastatic colon/colorectal cancer.

- ***Gastric Cancer***

To be used as first-line treatment of advanced gastric cancer in combination with a platinum-based regimen.

- ***Hepato-pancreato-biliary Cancer***

For patients with locally advanced or metastatic hepato-pancreato-biliary cancer, in whom other chemotherapy regimens are ineffective or not indicated.

For use in the adjuvant setting with gemcitabine chemotherapy.

**Duration of Approval**

1 year