

**THE MALTA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY PRACTICE**  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME - WINTER 2012

IS BEING SUPPORTED BY



**MALTA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY PRACTICE**

**CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WINTER 2012**

**Renewal of Membership**

October 2011 - September 2012

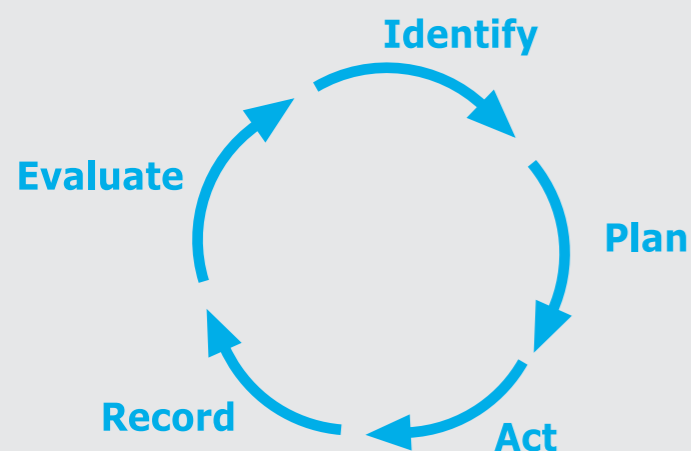
- €22 Full Member (≥30 credits)
- €25 Associate Member (< 30 credits)
- €25 New Member

For clarification of membership status and amount payable you may send an email to: registrar@mcppnet.org

In the interest of efficiency we would like to urge pharmacists to pay their membership in advance. Cheques should be made payable to: The Malta College of Pharmacy Practice. Cheques should be mailed to: Dr Maria Cordina, President, Malta College of Pharmacy Practice, c/o Department of Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics, University of Malta, Msida

in collaboration with  
Department of Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics  
University of Malta

**Continuing Professional Development Cycle**



Session	Date	Book by
1 Medicines Entitlement	25 January	18 January
2 Urinary Catheters	1 February	25 January
3 Psychiatric treatment	8 February	1 February
4 Insulin	15 February	3 February
5 Anticoagulation	22 February	15 February
6 High risk drugs	29 February	22 February

**Exclusive attendance**

All registered pharmacists are invited to become members of the Malta College of Pharmacy Practice and attend. Only registered **pharmacists** are eligible to become members of the College and thus participate in the events organised.

Students wishing to attend should send an email to: president@mcppnet.org

- Identify knowledge gaps through personal assessment
- Select appropriate learning activities
- Participate in activities
- Document activities as proof of participation
- Evaluate the success of your activity

**BOOKING**

may be placed preferably by email  
info@mcppnet.org

**Update your details online**  
[www.mcppnet.org](http://www.mcppnet.org)

# Responding to changes in practice

**Dear Colleague**

The practice of pharmacy at a primary care level is in a state of transition. Pharmacists are faced with increasing demands on various aspects of their practice. This session has been organised based on feedback from members who feel the need to update their knowledge in the line with their current practice. We are very happy to oblige and encourage pharmacists to continuously give us their feedback in order for us to provide a relevant and useful service. We would very much like to thank our speakers for their contribution and our sponsors for their ongoing support.

**Maria Cordina**

BPharm(Hons), PhD(QUB), Dip Health Outcomes Research  
President, Malta College of Pharmacy Practice

**PHARMACEUTICAL CARE**

*...is the responsible provision of drug therapy for the purpose of achieving definite outcomes that improve a patient's quality of life...  
...is provided for the direct benefit of the patient and the pharmacist is responsible directly to the patient for the quality of that care."*

C.D. Hepler

**SESSION 1****Medicines Entitlement****Scope**

The Directorate of Pharmaceutical Policy and Monitoring (DPPM) within the Ministry of Health and the Elderly Care, has the mission of developing equitable and sustainable pharmaceutical policies for the National Health Services in Malta. It also ensures that such policies are implemented effectively through continual and systematic monitoring. In addition it promotes excellence in patient care by adding value to individual patient care through assuring safe, accurate, rational and cost-effective use of medicines to all.

**Objectives**

- To provide an overview of the criteria of medicines entitlement through the NHS
- To highlight the tools used in the processing of entitlement
- To explain the government formulary list

**Learning objectives**

By the end of the session pharmacists will:

- be familiar with the tools used in DPPM
- be better able to understand the importance and the management of the Government formulary list
- have a better understanding of the entitlement of free medicines through the NHS

**Delivered by**

**Isabelle Zahra Pulis**

BPharm(Hons), MSc(Health Services Management)  
Director, DPPM

The presentation will be followed by a panel discussion which will include the principal speaker and:

**Alison Anastasi**

BPharm(Hons), PQD(Nutrition & Dietetics), MSc(Pharmacy)  
Principal Pharmacist, DPPM

**Jennifer Farrugia**

BPharm(Hons)  
Senior Pharmacist, DPPM

**Mary Lupo**

BPharm(Hons)  
Senior Pharmacist, POYC

**Josette Agius Bonello**

BPharm(Hons)  
Pharmacist, POYC

**Francesca Schembri**

BPharm(Hons)  
Pharmacist, POYC

**Date** Wednesday, 25 January 2012  
**Time** 19:30 for 20:00  
**Venue** Lecture Centre, Car park 2  
University of Malta  
**Book by** Wednesday, 18 January 2012

This workshop provides 4 credits towards the MCPP continuing education requirement.

**SESSION 2****Urinary catheters****Scope**

The presentation aims to support the theoretical and procedural evidence of indwelling catheters required to underpin the practice, and ensure patient safety, dignity and comfort.

**Objectives**

- To provide an overview of different types of catheters and indications for their use
- To differentiate between short term and long term use
- To provide an over view of the use of drainage bags
- To discuss catheter associated UTIs and treatment
- To highlight relevant aspects of care and counselling

**Learning objectives**

By the end of the session pharmacists will:

- have a clear understanding of catheters and their indications
- have a better understanding of drainage bags
- be updated on catheter associated UTIs and their treatment
- be in a better position to advice patients using catheters

**Delivered by**

**Edward Calleja** MD, MRCS(Ed)

Assistant Visiting Lecturer, University of Malta

**Date** Wednesday, 1 February 2012  
**Time** 19:30 for 20:00  
**Venue** Lecture Centre, Car park 2  
University of Malta  
**Book by** Wednesday, 25 January 2012

This workshop provides 4 credits towards the MCPP continuing education requirement.

**SESSION 3****Practical aspects of handling psychiatric patients and their therapy****Scope**

Currently, psychotropic drugs are increasingly being used to improve symptoms and functioning and in preventing future episodes of mental illness. Pharmacists are therefore increasingly interacting with patients presenting with mental health problems and they need to be optimally prepared to interact with these patients and make an intervention when necessary.

**Objectives**

- To provide an update on the more common classes of psychiatric drugs
- To provide information which will enable appropriate assessment of psychiatric patients and identify those needing referral
- To provide a background which will enable pharmacists to identify sensitive psychiatric patients who have a particular relationship with illness and medication
- To train pharmacists to identify and deal with psychiatric emergencies
- To provide an overview of dependable sources of information
- To give an overview of formulary and non-formulary drugs used in psychiatry

**Learning objectives**

By the end of the session pharmacists will:

- have an updated knowledge of drugs used in psychiatry
- be better able to interact with psychiatric patients
- be able to provide psychological and pharmacological first aid in the pharmacy
- be more knowledgeable as to where, when and whom to refer to
- know how to access and use reliable patient information leaflets

**Delivered by**

**Mark Xuereb** MD, MRCPsych (UK), MCEM (UK), MMCFD

Visiting Lecturer - University of Malta  
Emergency & Sports Doctor  
Family Practitioner  
Psychiatrist

**Date** Wednesday, 8 February 2012  
**Time** 19:30 for 20:00  
**Venue** Lecture Centre, Car park 2  
University of Malta  
**Book by** Wednesday, 1 February 2012

This workshop provides 4 credits towards the MCPP continuing education requirement.

**SESSION 4****Insulin: practical update****Scope**

Since the landmark discovery of insulin in the 1920's, huge steps have been made in the research and development of insulin preparations. Insulin is an essential drug in the treatment of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus. Despite this, insulin remains one of the drugs that are disliked by most patients and health-care professionals. It is also a drug that is very commonly implicated in medication errors. Pharmacists are in an ideal position to give the appropriate information on insulin to patients with diabetes mellitus every time that they come to the pharmacy.

**Objectives**

- To provide a very practical update on the different types of insulin available
- To provide an overview of indications, dosage regimens and dose calculations
- To give an update of the treatment goals
- To revise issues relating to storage conditions
- To compare different delivery devices
- To provide dispensing practice points

**Learning objectives**

By the end of the session pharmacists will

- have a better understanding of the currently available types of insulin
- have a good working knowledge of the delivery devices
- be able to identify treatment goals
- advise patients appropriately

**Delivered by**

**Ruth Theuma** BPharm(Hons) MSc Clinical Pharmacy (Aberdeen)

Senior Clinical Pharmacist, Mater Dei Hospital  
Assistant Visiting Lecturer, Department of Medicine,  
University of Malta

**Moira Grixti**

Nursing Officer  
Diabetes Nurse Specialist, Mater Dei Hospital

**Date** Wednesday, 15 February 2012  
**Time** 19:30 for 20:00  
**Venue** Lecture Centre, Car park 2  
University of Malta  
**Book by** Wednesday, 8 February 2012

This workshop provides 4 credits towards the MCPP continuing education requirement.

**SESSION 5****Anticoagulation: From Dog livers to Targeted Therapy****Scope**

Thrombosis remains the number one killer in Western societies. During the last century, we have come to appreciate that certain people require restraint to their coagulation system in order to prevent both venous and arterial thrombotic events. McLean discovered heparin in 1916 and then in 1935 we have the first documented usage of unfractionated Heparin intraoperatively by Murray. Then 5 years later, Karl Paul Link developed Warfarin after a fortuitous discovery by vets with a story involving mouldy hay and bleeding cows! Over the last 70 years, there was further refinement in the parenteral anticoagulants with the development of low molecular weight heparins and synthetic pentasaccharides. More recently with a better understanding of the coagulation pathway, researchers have focussed on the development of small molecules that target specific coagulation proteases. There are already a multitude of these 'coagulation bullets' on the market and more to come.

**Objectives**

- To provide an overview of the function of warfarin, highlighting pros and cons
- To highlight the function of heparins
- To discuss coagulation system and the effect of 'old' and 'new' drugs
- To highlight the principles of lab tests used for anticoagulant monitoring
- To provide an overview of the new agents available on the market including their pharmacokinetics

**Learning objectives**

By the end of the session pharmacists will

- have a better understanding of warfarin and heparins and new drugs
- be updated on the coagulation system
- be familiar with lab tests used for anticoagulant monitoring

**Delivered by**

**Alex Gatt** MD, FRCP (Edin), FRCPath (Haem), CCSTUK (Haem)  
Consultant Haematologist and Lead in Coagulation

**Date** Wednesday, 22 February 2012  
**Time** 19:30 for 20:00  
**Venue** Lecture Centre, Car park 2  
University of Malta  
**Book by** Wednesday, 15 February 2012

This workshop provides 4 credits towards the MCPP continuing education requirement.

**SESSION 6****High risk medications – in a nutshell****Scope**

High risk medicines pose a higher probability of causing harm in patients when used erroneously. The effects of these drugs on the patients are significantly devastating. It is therefore imperative to increase awareness (both general and specific) on high risk medications

**Objectives**

- To provide a deeper insight on pharmaceutical risk minimisation dynamics
- To identify missed opportunities in learning important lessons
- To identify some of the most commonly mentioned and encountered 'high risk medications'
- To outline risk minimising strategies; a one size fits all?
- To discuss prospective and retrospective risk assessments and their place in the pharmacy
- To highlight milestones, pitfalls in disguise and their interplay

**Learning objectives**

By the end of the session pharmacists will

- have a better understanding of high risk drugs
- be in a better position to identify high risk drugs and employ risk minimising strategies

**Delivered by**

**Dustin Balzan** BPharm(Hons), MSc PTQA (Leeds)  
Quality Assurance Pharmacist, Mater Dei Hospital

**Date** Wednesday, 29 February 2012  
**Time** 19:30 for 20:00  
**Venue** Lecture Centre, Car park 2  
University of Malta  
**Book by** Wednesday, 22 February 2012

This workshop provides 4 credits towards the MCPP continuing education requirement.