

**SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE GIBRALTAR  
GAZETTE**

No. 3883 of 13 October, 2011

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LEGAL NOTICE NO. 199 OF 2011.

**MEDICAL AND HEALTH ACT**

**MEDICINES (PRESCRIPTION ONLY) (AMENDMENT)  
REGULATIONS 2011**

In exercise of powers conferred by sections 36 and 66 of the Medical and Health Act and all other enabling provisions, the Minister responsible for health has made the following Regulations—

**Title and commencement.**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Medicines (Prescription Only) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 and shall come into operation on the date of publication in the Gazette.

**Amendment of the Medicines (Prescription Only) Regulations, 1987.**

2.(1) The Medicines (Prescription Only) Regulations, 1987 are amended as follows.

(2) In regulation 2—

(a) before the definition of “health prescription” insert—

““approved course” means a course approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the Gibraltar Health Authority;

“emergency medical technician” means a person—

(a) in the employment of the Gibraltar Health Authority; and

(b) certified by the Chief Executive Officer of the Gibraltar Health Authority, subsequent to his having undertaken a relevant approved course,

as competent in the use of emergency medical technician skills;”;

(b) after the definition of “health prescription” insert–

““nurse practitioner” means a person–

- (a) in the employment of the Gibraltar Health Authority;
- (b) entered in the register established under the Register of Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Regulations; and
- (c) certified by the Chief Executive Officer of the Gibraltar Health Authority, subsequent to his having undertaken a relevant approved course, as competent in the use of and prescribing of nurse practitioner medicinal products;

“nurse practitioner medicinal product” means a product prescribed by a nurse practitioner in accordance with the conditions listed in Part I of Schedule 3 to these regulations;

“prescribing optometrist” means a person–

- (a) in the employment of the Gibraltar Health Authority; and
- (b) certified by the Chief Executive Officer of the Gibraltar Health Authority, subsequent to his having undertaken a relevant approved course, as competent in the use and prescribing of prescribing optometrist medicinal products,

provided that the Chief Executive Officer of the Gibraltar Health Authority may endorse such certification as to which level of prescribing optometrist medicinal product may be prescribed by such person;

“prescribing optometrist medicinal product” means a product listed in Part II of Schedule 3 to these regulations and references to a particular level of “prescribing optometrist medicinal product” shall be construed accordingly;”;

(c) in the definition of “prescription only medicine”, for “1980” substitute “1997”;

(3) In regulation 3–

(a) in sub-regulation (1)(a) after “under the provisions of the Act” insert “or (subject to subregulation (5)) a nurse practitioner or (subject to subregulation (6)) a prescribing optometrist”;

(b) for sub-regulation (1)(b) substitute–

“(b) subject to subregulation (7), no person shall administer (otherwise than to himself) any such medicinal product unless he is a medical practitioner, dental practitioner or (subject to sub-regulation (5)) a nurse practitioner or (subject to sub-regulation (6)) a prescribing optometrist.”;

(c) in subregulation (4)(b) for “the Schedule” substitute “Schedule 1”;

(d) after subregulation (4), insert–

“(5) A nurse practitioner may only prescribe or administer prescription only medicines approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the Gibraltar Health Authority in connection with a disease or condition specified in Part I of Schedule 3 to these regulations.

(6) Subject to paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d), a prescribing optometrist may only prescribe or administer prescription only medicines which are specified in Part II of Schedule 3 to these regulations–

(a) level 1 prescribing optometrist medicinal products may only be prescribed by a prescribing optometrist who is

registered with the General Optical Council of the United Kingdom;

- (b) level 2 prescribing optometrist medicinal products may only be prescribed by a prescribing optometrist who is registered on the General Optical Council for the United Kingdom's Specialist Register in Additional Supply;
- (c) level 3 prescribing optometrist medicinal products–
  - (i) are products prescribed in accordance with the conditions listed under Level 3 of Part II of Schedule 3 to these regulations; and
  - (ii) may only be prescribed by a prescribing optometrist who is registered on the General Optical Council for the United Kingdom's Specialist Register in Supplementary prescribing.
- (d) prescribing optometrists may administer but not prescribe topical anaesthetics marked with an “\*” in Part II of Schedule 3 to these regulations.

(7) Subregulation (1)(b) shall not apply to the administration by an emergency medical technician of medicinal products which are specified in Part III of Schedule 3 to these regulations where the administration is for the purpose of saving life in an emergency.

(8) Subject to these regulations, for the purposes of Part VII of the Medical and Health Act, 1997, and regulations made under that Part, a prescription given in accordance with this regulation by a nurse practitioner or a prescribing optometrist (as the case may be) shall be deemed to have been made by a medical practitioner.

(9) Nurse practitioners and prescribing optometrists may not prescribe any drug which is a controlled drug under the Drugs (Misuse) Act, save where that Act or any regulations under it provide to the contrary.”.

- (4) In regulation 4 after subregulation (1)(d) insert–

- “(da) notwithstanding regulation 3(8), if issued by a prescribing optometrist the words “issued by a prescribing optometrist” shall be included;
  - “(db) notwithstanding regulation 3(8), if issued by a nurse practitioner the words “issued by a nurse practitioner” shall be included;”.
- (5) In regulation 10–
- (a) in subregulation (2)(b) for “the Schedule” substitute “Schedule 2”;
  - (b) in subregulation (2)(d) for “the Schedule” substitute “Schedule 2”;
- (6) For the heading “SCHEDULE.” which appears in the Schedule to the regulations before the words “Regulation 3(4)(b)” substitute “SCHEDULE 1.”.
- (7) For the heading “SCHEDULE” which appears in the Schedule to the regulations before the words “Regulation 10” substitute “SCHEDULE 2.”.
- (8) After Schedule 2 insert–

**“SCHEDULE 3.**

Regulation 3

**PART I**

Repeat prescriptions for the management of the following Chronic Diseases where the original therapy has been initiated or is followed by a GHA employed Medical Practitioner or Visiting Consultant contracted to provide clinical services (e.g. Dermatology, Rheumatology and Neurology);

1. Chronic Respiratory Disease including Asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease;
2. Diabetes its management and the prevention of its complications;

3. Heart Failure management;
4. Essential Hypertension management;
5. Gastro-esophageal reflux disease and inflammatory bowel disease;
6. Pain management in Palliative care patients;
7. Stable endocrine disorders such as hypothyroidism;
8. Menstrual Irregularities and Well Woman Services;
9. Rheumatoid and Osteoarthritis Management.

## **PART II**

### **Level 1**

Cyclopentolate hydrochloride

Tropicamide

Chloramphenicol 1% ointment

Fusidic acid

Proxymetacaine\*

Lidocaine Hydrochloride\*

Oxybuprocaine hydrochloride\*

Tetracaine Hydrochloride\*

\*Topical anaesthetic for administration only

### **Level 2**

Atropine sulphate

Homatropine hydrobromide

Pilocarpine hydrochloride

Pilocarpine nitrate

Emedastine

Lodoxomide 10ml

Nedocromil Sodium

Sodium Cromoglicate

Azelastine Hydrochloride

Ketotifen

Olopatadine

Diclofenac Sodium

Polymyxin B / Bacitracin

Polymyxin B / Trimethoprim

Acetylcysteine

**Level 3**

Ocular therapeutics prescribed as per the Consultant Ophthalmologist's protocol for the following ocular conditions:

Glaucoma

Ocular Hypertension

Allergic Conjunctivitis

Keratitis

Microbial Conjunctivitis

Episcleritis

Dry Eye / Keratoconjunctivitis sicca

Corneal Decompensation

Uveitis

Post surgical cystoid macula oedema

Age Related Macula Degeneration

Blepharitis

Repeat prescriptions for Chronic Ocular Disease where the original therapy has been initiated and followed by a Consultant Ophthalmologist, with the guidance issued by the Consultant Ophthalmologist of the Gibraltar Health Authority.

### **PART III**

Adrenaline Injection 1 in 1000 (1 mg in 1 ml)

Atropine sulphate and obidoxime chloride injection

Atropine sulphate and pralidoxime chloride injection

Atropine Sulphate Injection

Atropine sulphate, pralidoxime mesilate and avizafone injection

Chlorphenamine Injection

Dicobalt Edetate Injection

Glucagon Injection

Glucose Injection 50%

Hydrocortisone Injection

Ipratropium Bromide



Naloxone Hydrochloride  
Pralidoxime chloride injection  
Pralidoxime mesilate injection  
Promethazine Hydrochloride Injection  
Salbutamol  
Snake Venom Antiserum  
Sodium Nitrite Injection  
Sodium Thiosulphate Injection  
Sterile Pralidoxime”.

Dated 13th October, 2011.

Y DEL AGUA,  
Minister with responsibility for health.

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**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

These regulations amend the Medicines (Prescription Only) Regulations, 1987 in order to allow–

1. certain certified nurse practitioners in the employ of the GHA to prescribe repeat prescriptions in certain circumstances for various chronic conditions;
2. certain optometrists to expand their practice in a manner consistent with their position in the UK (allowing for their applying and prescribing certain medicines); and
3. emergency medical technicians to administer certain prescription only medicines in emergencies.

