



MALTA COLLEGE OF FAMILY DOCTORS

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Press Release – Appeal to the Public regarding COVID-19

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The Malta College of Family Doctors (MCFD) seeks to maintain the highest standard of the Specialty of Family Medicine in Malta. By nature of the profession, Family Doctors inherently have a major stake at promoting and fostering the health of the society, to which they provide their services.

The Malta College of Family Doctors is following closely the rapidly evolving events surrounding COVID-19 and fully supports the measures that are being employed to minimise dissemination.

MCFD encourages its members and the general public to observe quarantine rules, when indicated, as directed by the Superintendent of Public Health and remain vigilant for any updates via official channels of information in relation to COVID-19.

MCFD reiterates the message issued by the Health Promotion Department for patients not to attend private clinics and health centres but instead contact the helpline 111 or (+356) 21 324 086 for information related to COVID-19. Further information and updates may be sought at <https://deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/health-promotion/Pages/Novel-coronavirus.aspx>

The College understands that the current situation is delicate and changing at a fast rate. The Medical Council Malta has recently issued a circular indicating “that telephone or virtual consultations may become necessary” and that written prescriptions “may be sent to patients as an electronic means” “in cases where the Medical Practitioner cannot hand a prescription directly to a patient”. Further information can be sought at <https://deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/regcounc/medicalcouncil/Documents/Cicular%201%20of%202020.pdf>

Further measures might be considered in order to curtail the spread of infectious diseases between family doctors and patients alike as directed by the health authorities.

MCFD would like to express its gratitude with patients and health professionals alike in their efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and will continue paying attention and taking measures in response to the events unfolding.