



**Attention: All General Practitioners**

The Malta National Poisons Centre is extending its phone-in advisory service to all General Practitioners. This service is over and above the one we currently provide to Mater Dei Hospital, Gozo General Hospital and Health Centre General Practitioners.

**This service will start on Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2023.** The Centre will be contactable through number **1774** from 08.00am to 08:00pm everyday including weekends and public holidays.

Our team of Clinical Toxicologists and Poison Specialists will be available to assist all doctors with any case of poisoning or intoxication of any kind, especially if a referral to the Emergency Department is being considered. Patients who are very sick or unstable should be referred immediately to the Emergency Department in the usual way.

When calling kindly have this information available:

- Name, ID, and approximate weight of patient
- Details of ingestion/ exposure including time, agent and total dose ingested
- Any relevant past medical history, including psychiatric history
- Whether there was any co-ingestion with alcohol
- Collateral history if the patient is uncooperative or unable to give a history

We will be able to assist the calling GP in various ways:

- Whether any first aid treatment is indicated
- Patient disposition – whether it is safe for the patient to remain at home or needs to be referred to hospital
- Whether the patient needs any further follow up or investigation

Mr Clarence Pace  
Director General (Healthcare Services)