



**Maldives Food and Drug Authority**

Ministry of Health

Male', Maldives

**Guideline on Dhivehi Competency Evaluation for  
Expatriate Pharmacists**

---

<b>Medicine and Therapeutic Goods Division, Maldives Food and Drug Authority</b>		Authorized by: Director General, MEDA	
Doc. No: MTG/RE-DC/GLN-TE 012	Doc. Name: <b>Guideline on Dhivehi Competency evaluation for expatriate pharmacists</b>		
Issue No: 01	Issue Date: 17.05.2022	Prepared by: Pharmaceutical Officer, Regulation Section	Approved by: Deputy Director General, Pharmaceuticals
Revision No: 00	Revised Date: -	Verified by: Technical Committee of MTG	Copy Letter: MTG/RE GLN 004 Page No: 1 of 6

**Guideline on Dhivehi Competency evaluation for expatriate pharmacists is released under  
the authority of**

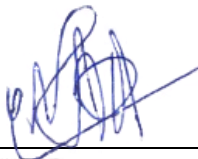

**Ms. Thooma Adam  
Deputy Director General**

**It is the property of:  
Maldives Food and Drug Authority  
Male'  
Republic of Maldives**

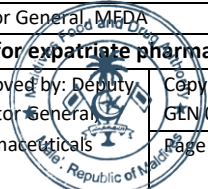
**Prepared by:**



**Nafha Rasheed  
Pharmaceutical Officer**

<b>Approved by: Ms.Aishath Mohamed Deputy Director General, Pharmaceuticals Maldives Food and Drug Authority</b>		17.05.2022
<b>Authorized by: Ms.Thooma Adam Deputy Director General, Laboratory Services Maldives Food and Drug Authority</b>		17.05.2022

<b>Medicine and Therapeutic Goods Division, Maldives Food and Drug Authority</b>		Authorized by: Director General, MEDA	
Doc. No: MTG/RE-DC/GLN-TE 012	Doc. Name: <b>Guideline on Dhivehi Competency evaluation for expatriate pharmacists</b>		
Issue No: 01	Issue Date: 17.05.2022	Prepared by: Pharmaceutical Officer, Regulation Section	Approved by: Deputy Director General, Pharmaceuticals
Revision No: 00	Revised Date: -	Verified by: Technical Committee of MTG	Copy Letter: MTG/RE GLN 004 Page No: 2 of 6



**CONTENTS**

1 INTRODUCTION ----- 4

2 PURPOSE ----- 4

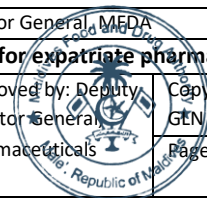
3 SCOPE ----- 4

4 RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ----- 4

5 Guideline content ----- 5

6 Legal basis and references ----- 6

<b>Medicine and Therapeutic Goods Division, Maldives Food and Drug Authority</b>		Authorized by: Director General, MEDA	
Doc. No: MTG/RE-DC/GLN-TE 012	Doc. Name: <b>Guideline on Dhivehi Competency evaluation for expatriate pharmacists</b>		
Issue No: 01	Issue Date: 17.05.2022	Prepared by: Pharmaceutical Officer, Regulation Section	Approved by: Deputy Director General, Pharmaceuticals
Revision No: 00	Revised Date: -	Verified by: Technical Committee of MTG	Copy Letter: MTG/RE GLN 004 Page No: 3 of 6



## Guideline on Dhivehi Competency Evaluation for Expatriate Pharmacists

### 1 INTRODUCTION

In accordance to the medicine regulation a local translator shall be present at all times in the pharmacy if the pharmacist is and expatriate. With regard to the pharmacy inspections conducted for the past 5 years to implement this is a challenge for different reason. One reason is that the expatriate pharmacist's/pharmacy owners requesting that the pharmacists are fluent in Dhivehi as they have been in service for 5 to 15 years. Plus, the extra cost of another staff just to stay there is not feasible for the pharmacies.

Hence, in consultation with the relevant institutes, MFDA shall conduct Dhivehi language competency evaluation, both oral and written, for expatriate pharmacists and issue certificates. Those pharmacists who are certified can then work in the pharmacies without a translator.

### 2 PURPOSE

This evaluation is conducted to ensure that expatriate pharmacists are able to work at a pharmacy without a translator. In this evaluation, MFDA shall verify how fluent the pharmacist is to Dhivehi language. The evaluation shall be specifically design for pharmacy setting in handling the customers. For instance, during the oral evaluation, the pharmacist shall be evaluated on how he gives the instruction to the patient in Dhivehi, on how to take the medication and other specific instructions

### 3 SCOPE

This guideline shall facilitate competent pharmacy services by the pharmacies and the purpose is to facilitate the service with in the regulatory boundaries without penalizing them

### 4 RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Pharmaceutical officers of Regulation Unit
2. Director, Pharmaceuticals
3. Deputy Director General (Medicine Therapeutic Goods Division)
4. Director General (MFDA)

<b>Medicine and Therapeutic Goods Division, Maldives Food and Drug Authority</b>		Authorized by: Director General, MFDA	
Doc. No: MTG/RE-DC/GLN-TE 012	Doc. Name: <b>Guideline on Dhivehi Competency evaluation for expatriate pharmacists</b>		
Issue No: 01	Issue Date: 17.05.2022	Prepared by: Pharmaceutical Officer, Regulation Section	Approved by: Deputy Director General, Pharmaceuticals Copy Letter: MTG/RE GLN 004
Revision No: 00	Revised Date: -	Verified by: Technical Committee of MTG	Page No: 4 of 6

## 5 Guideline content

### 5.1 How to apply?

- 5.1.1 The pharmacy owners or the pharmacist can directly apply for this evaluation.
- 5.1.2 MFDA shall inform those pharmacies that has been identified in the previous inspections.
- 5.1.3 Once this guideline is implemented, all expatriate pharmacists are advised to perform this evaluation.
- 5.1.4 The following document shall be submitted:
  - a. Passport copy of the pharmacist
  - b. Copy of Maldives Allied Health Council certificate
  - c. Copy of pharmacist id card
- 5.1.5 Dhivehi competency certificate shall be issued to the pharmacist for 3 years, if the applicant meets the below requirements.

### 5.2 Requirements for approval

- 5.2.1 If the pharmacist gets 50 percent from both oral and written evaluations, the pharmacist will be given the Dhivehi competency certificate and he/she can work independently without a local translator.

### 5.3 Processing of Application

- 5.3.1 Once received the application request via email (mtg@health.gov.mv), documents will be checked and verified within 05 (Five) working days.
- 5.3.2 If all the documents are there and acceptable, the applicant will be notified via email stating the date and time to attend the evaluation.
- 5.3.3 Both evaluations shall be conducted on the same day. And the certificate shall be issued within 05 (Five) working days after the exam.

### 5.4 Rejection of application

- 5.4.1 If all the related documents were not submitted the request will be rejected and will be notified via email.

<b>Medicine and Therapeutic Goods Division, Maldives Food and Drug Authority</b>		Authorized by: Director General, MFDA	
Doc. No: MTG/RE-DC/GLN-TE 012	Doc. Name: <b>Guideline on Dhivehi Competency evaluation for expatriate pharmacists</b>		
Issue No: 01	Issue Date: 17.05.2022	Prepared by: Pharmaceutical Officer, Regulation Section	Approved by: Deputy Director General, Pharmaceuticals Copy Letter: MTG/RE GLN 004
Revision No: 00	Revised Date: -	Verified by: Technical Committee of MTG	Page No: 5 of 6

## 5.5 Dhivehi competency certificate

**5.5.1** If the applicant scores 50 per cent and above in both evaluations, Dhivehi competency certificate shall be issued to the pharmacist. If the applicant fails to score these percentages, he /she can have a chance to resist the evaluation after 3 months and till then he/she must work with a local translator.

**5.5.2** Certificate shall be renewed every 3 years.

## 6 Legal basis and references

- a. Medicine regulation R-46 (2014)
- b. Medicine regulation amendment R-49 (2016)
- c. Health service act (29/2015)

<b>Medicine and Therapeutic Goods Division, Maldives Food and Drug Authority</b>		Authorized by: Director General, MEDA		
Doc. No: MTG/RE-DC/GLN-TE 012	Doc. Name: <b>Guideline on Dhivehi Competency evaluation for expatriate pharmacists</b>			
Issue No: 01	Issue Date: 17.05.2022	Prepared by: Pharmaceutical Officer, Regulation Section	Approved by: Deputy Director General, Pharmaceuticals	Copy Letter: MTG/RE GLN 004
Revision No: 00	Revised Date: -	Verified by: Technical Committee of MTG	Page No: 6 of 6	