

## Epilepsy: Finding Help

### *L-Epilessija: Kif insibu l-ghajjnuna*

### 2018 National Epilepsy Conference

Dear Colleagues

“Epilepsy: Finding Help”, has been chosen to be the theme of this year’s national conference of the Caritas Malta Epilepsy Association. The conference is being held in conjunction with the Department of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, University of Malta. The conference, which will convene at the Dolmen Resort Hotel on **Saturday 10 March 2018**, will highlight practical aspects of how and where to seek help for proper epilepsy diagnosis and treatment. There are over 4,000 persons who have been diagnosed with epilepsy in Malta and Gozo. Epilepsy is often a hidden medical condition which requires several varying medical and support services and it can greatly affect a person’s social and personal life. We are honoured that the conference will be opened by HE Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta. Among the speakers will be Prof Dorothee Kasteleijn, Netherlands. We also have several distinguished local speakers such as Dr. Josanne Aquilina, Dr. Doriette Soler, Dr. Edith Said, Dr. John Farrugia, as well as also interactive workshops.

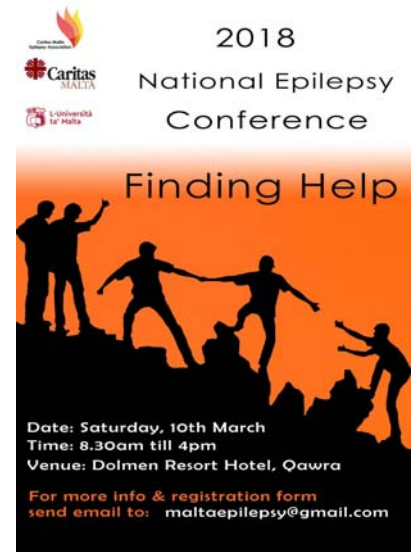
This conference will be of specific interest to persons with epilepsy and their families, educators, teachers and LSAs and various health care professionals and students (doctors, pharmacists, nurses etc) who work with persons with epilepsy. We are sure that this conference will be of great interest to all the participants and the interactive session will stimulate a great deal of discussion. We would like to thank you for your continuing support and interest. Attached you will find the programme and an application form for this conference. The cost has been kept at a minimum of **€30 per person**, lunch and coffee breaks included. There is a limited number of seats, so apply early to avoid disappointment.

**THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

**Caroline Attard, Matthew Attard, Manuel Camilleri, Robin Pinkston,  
Frank Portelli, Noel Portelli, Janet Mifsud, Adriana Soler, Zvetlana Zerafa, Sarah Fleri.**

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**Please cut and send to one of the persons above with payment by 1 March 2018.**

**Cheques are to be made out to Caritas Malta Epilepsy Association**

Name of each person attending \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Choice of Workshop **A**  **B**  **C**  Dietary requirements (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you understand **Maltese only**  **English only**  **Both English and Maltese**

**Cancellations and refunds will only be given if requests are made before 1 March 2018**

## ***Epilepsy: Finding Help***

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*Saturday 10 March 2018, Dolmen Resort Hotel, Malta*

- 08.30      **Registration and welcome coffee**
- 09.00      **Chair** Mr Frank Portelli, President, Caritas Malta Epilepsy Association  
**Welcome Remarks**  
HE Marie Louise Colerio Preca, President of Malta  
Mr Leonid McKay, Director, Caritas Malta
- 09.35      **Plenary talks**  
**Chair** Mr. Matthew Attard, Caritas Malta Epilepsy Association  
**Finding help: Understanding different types of seizures**  
Prof Dorothee Kasteleijn, Department of Neurosurgery and Epilepsy  
University Medical Center Utrecht, The Netherlands
- 10.05      **Questions**
- 10.15      **Coffee break**
- 10.45      **Moderators: Ms Robin Pinkston/Ms Sarah Fleri**  
**Finding help: the process in Malta**  
Dr Josanne Aquilina, Consultant Neurologist MDH  
Dr Doriette Soler, Consultant NeuroPaediatrician, MDH
- 11.15      **Finding help: what services are available in Malta**  
**Moderators:** Ms Robin Pinkston/Ms Sarah Fleri  
**Panel:** Dr Edith Said, Genetics Consultant MDH; Dr John Farrugia, Consultant  
Paediatrician, CDAU; Ms Josette Portelli, Speech Language Pathologist; Ms Erika Taylor  
East, Pharmacist; Mr Sandro Fabri, EEG Technician.
- 12.00      **Discussion and questions**
- 12.30      **Lunch**
- 14.00      **Interactive Workshops**
- |          |                                       |  |
|----------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>A</b> | <b>Finding help: for children –</b>   | Dr Doriette Soler, Ms Robin Pinkston   |
| <b>B</b> | <b>Finding help: for adults –</b>     | Dr Josanne Aquilina, Mr Matthew Attard |
| <b>C</b> | <b>Finding help: for caregivers –</b> | Dr John Farrugia, Mr Frank Portelli    |
- 15.30      **Report from workshops** - Prof Janet Mifsud
- 15.45      **Closing** – Hon Dr. Chris Fearne, Minister for Health (TBC)