

### Advice for patients following the withdrawal of Vioxx

Following the voluntary worldwide withdrawal of the medicinal product Vioxx (rofecoxib) by Merck & Co., Inc., the Medicines Authority has collaborated with their local distributors A.M. Mangion Ltd. to ensure that all necessary action is taken. The Medicines Authority has also drafted a questions and answers document, which is available on the Medicines Authority's website [www.health.gov.mt/mru](http://www.health.gov.mt/mru)

A.M. Mangion Ltd. has promptly started taking up the necessary action as follows. Doctors were immediately informed about the withdrawal of Vioxx through The Synapse, a local network for medical professionals ([www.thesynapse.net](http://www.thesynapse.net)) as well as an e-mail sent via The Synapse. A Dear Doctor Letter is also being sent to all local doctors and pharmacists. A.M. Mangion Ltd. has also immediately started recalling Vioxx from local pharmacies.

The Medicines Authority recommends that patients taking Vioxx should contact their doctor to arrange alternative treatment at their earliest convenience.