



## **Guidelines for Use**

RDNS is committed to the Multicultural Victoria Act 2004, which informs RDNS' policies to ensure people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds can enjoy access to RDNS' services equally, and are treated with respect and sensitivity.

RDNS' clients originate from 145 countries and speak 74 languages.

Each of RDNS' nursing centres provides services to local CALD communities, which vary markedly from centre to centre. Some centres may have large population groups from single ethnic backgrounds; others may have several groups of varying ethnicity.

RDNS recognises that effective communication is essential to the delivery of high quality services and communicates with people who speak little or no English with the use of accredited interpreters (on-site and telephone), the provision of translated materials, and wherever possible employing staff who can provide services to clients in a language other than English.

In addition, RDNS makes available this information sheet which comprises common words and phrases that might be used when a client from a non-English speaking background is experiencing an episode of care from RDNS.

Whilst this document was originally developed for use by RDNS staff, it may of use to you or people you know and as a result is freely available for download and use.

This document includes information on the following:

Introduction to the language

Topic 1: Greetings

Topic 2: Making / changing appointments

Topic 3: Medical problems

Topic 4: farewell

RDNS remains committed to providing the best possible care to all of our clients.



## Introduction to the Maltese Alphabet

Maltese is a language with an Arabic morphology and a very mixed vocabulary. The Maltese language absorbed a large number of romance words expressing new ideas and requirements. This explains why spoken Maltese, which is largely Semitic, has so many loan words. But so strong is the Semitic morphology of the language that these have been adapted to Maltese morphologic word-patterns. The Maltese alphabet is a successful transliteration of semetic sounds but uniquely, written in Roman characters.

Maltese Letter	English Equivalent	Closest Pronunciation in English
<b>a</b>	a	like a in Ann
<b>b</b>	b	like b in bring
<b>`</b> (with a dot on top)	ch	like ch in child
<b>d</b>	d	like d in dream
<b>e</b>	e	like e in feel
<b>f</b>	f	like f in fun
<b>[</b> (with a dot on top)	g	soft like g in ginger
<b>g</b> (without a dot)	g	hard like g in get
<b>g]</b> (consist of g without dot & h crossed as one letter)		may be sounded or silent
<b>]</b> (crossed )	h	soft like h in honey
<b>h</b> (not crossed)	h	Silent as in honour or soft like in honey
<b>i</b>	ee	like ee in feel
<b>k</b>	k	like k in kind
<b>l</b>	l	like l in lemon
<b>m</b>	m	like m in milk
<b>n</b>	n	like n in nun
<b>o</b>	o	like o in not
<b>p</b>	p	like p in party
<b>q</b>	Has a gutted sound & has not equal in the English Language	
<b>r</b>	r	like r in run
<b>s</b>	s	like s in Sam
<b>t</b>	t	like t in Tony
<b>u</b>	u	like u in nun
<b>v</b>	v	like v in vain
<b>w</b>	w	like w in win
<b>x</b>	sh	like sh in sharp
<b>\</b> (with a dot)	z	like z in zapped
<b>z</b> (without dot)	ts	like ts in nuts

Topic 1: **GREETINGS**

English	Maltese	Closest Pronunciation in English
<b>Hello</b>	Hello	Hello
<b>Good morning</b>	Bon[ u	Bonju
<b>Good afternoon</b>	F-l-g] axija t-tajjeb	Flas heeia it-thaiyep
<b>Good evening</b>	Il-lejl it-tajjeb	Il-lael it-thaiyep
<b>Good night</b>	Il-lejl it-tajjeb	Il-lael it-thaiyep
<b>What is your name?</b>	X'jis mek?	Sh ees mek
<b>I am a nurse</b>	Jien ners	Ye ana nurse
<b>My name is</b>	J isimni	Ye es eemni
<b>Mr / Mrs</b>	Mr / Mrs	Mr / Mrs
<b>I am happy to see you again</b>	Nie] u pja` ir ner[ a' narak	Kn ee who piacheer nerja naraak
<b>No</b>	Le	Le
<b>Yes</b>	Iva	Ev a
<b>Good</b>	Tajjeb	Thaiyep
<b>Do you understand me?</b>	Tifhimni?	Tifimknee
<b>I understand</b>	Nifhem	Nifhem
<b>I don't understand you</b>	Ma nifhmekx	Ma nifmeksh
<b>Do you need an interpreter?</b>	G] andek b\onn interpretu?	Undeck bzonn interpretu?
<b>I need an interpreter</b>	G] andi b\onn interpretu	Undee bzonn interpretu



## Topic 2: MAKING / CHANGING APPOINTMENTS

English	Maltese	Closest Pronunciation in English
<b>What day can I visit you?</b>	Meta nista' narak?	Meta nista naraak?
<b>At what time?</b>	X'ji n?	Sh h ha in?
<b>Monday</b>	It-Tnejn	It-Tin ine
<b>Tuesday</b>	It-Tlieta	It-Tleeta
<b>Wednesday</b>	L-E rbg] a	L-E rbaa
<b>Thursday</b>	Il-} amis	il-Hum eas e
<b>Friday</b>	Il-{i mg] a	il-gymaa h
<b>Saturday</b>	Is-Sibt	Is-Sipt
<b>Sunday</b>	Il-} add	il-Hut
<b>Morning</b>	Fil-g]o du	Fil-awe du
<b>Midday</b>	Nofs in-nhar	Nofs in-naar
<b>Afternoon</b>	Wara nofs in-nhar	Wara nofs in-naar
<b>Evening</b>	Fil-g] axija	Fil-ar-shea
<b>At Night</b>	Bil-lejl	Bil-lail
<b>I need to..</b>	G] andi b\onn..	Undee bzonn
<b>Make a phone call</b>	In`empel	Inchempell
<b>Speak..</b>	Tkellem..	Kell emm
<b>to your doctor</b>	mat-tabib tieg] ek	ma-tahbee b teaak
<b>to your family</b>	mal-familja tieg]ek	mal-familia teaak
<b>to your son</b>	mat-tifel	mat-teefell
<b>to your daughter</b>	mat-tifla	mat-teeflaa
<b>to your husband</b>	mar-ra[ el	mar-raa gell
<b>to your wife</b>	mal-mara	mal-maraa
<b>to your brother</b>	ma' ] uk	ma hauk
<b>to your sister</b>	ma' o]t ok	ma ohtock (h as in hut)
<b>I need to change our visit time</b>	G] andi b\onn nibdel il-]i n ta\ - \jara tag] na	Undee bzonn neebdel il-hee n taz-ziaaraa taana



## Topic 3: MEDICAL PROBLEMS

English	Maltese	Closest Pronunciation in English
<b>How are you?</b>	Kif int?	Ke ef intee?
<b>Where does it hurt?</b>	Fejn ju[ g]lek ?	Fein youjack?
<b>The chemist will bring your tablets this afternoon / tomorrow</b>	L-ispi\jar se j[i blek il-pilloli l-lejla / g]ad a	Lis spisyarr saj-gee-bleck il-pill lollee il-leila / aa daa
<b>Show me the medications that you are taking</b>	Urini l-medi` ina li qed tie]u	Oo ee nee il-medeech hee naa lee-et- tea who
<b>I want you to take your medicine</b>	Irridek tie]u l-medi` ina tieg] ek	Irree deck tea who il-mee deech heena tea-ak
<b>Can you get yourself some water?</b>	Tista' tie] u ffit ilma int stes s?	Tista tea who fteet ilmaa int stes s?
<b>I need to..</b>	G] andi b\onn	Undee bzonn
<b>Check your blood pressure</b>	Ni` `ekkjalek il-pres sjoni	Nitchcheckyaalek il-pres syoni
<b>Take your pulse</b>	Ni` `ekkjalek il-polz	Nitchcheckyaalek il polz
<b>Change your dressing</b>	Nibdillek il-faxex	Nibdillek il fas h es h
<b>Ambulance</b>	Ambulanza	Amboolanz aa
<b>Doctor</b>	Tabib	Tabeeb
<b>Medicine</b>	Medi` ina	Medeech hee na
<b>Are you constipated?</b>	T] ossok konstipat?	Thos sock konstee paat (h as in hut)
<b>Do you have diabetes?</b>	G] andek dijabete?	Undeck id-diabet te



## Topic 4: FAREWELL

English	Maltese	Closest Pronunciation in English
<b>You can ring me on...</b>	Tista' `` empilli fuq..	Tista itchchempillee fu..
<b>Thank you</b>	Graz zi	Grat si
<b>I'm pleased to have met you</b>	Qe d nie]u pja` ir li ltqajt mieg]ek	Ed kneewho piacheer lee ltayt mee ak
<b>Good - bye</b>	Sa ]] a	Sa -ha
<b>Keep well</b>	] u ]s ieb sa] ]t ek	Who hsieb sah htek
<b>Take care / All the best / Good luck</b>	Oqg] od attent/ Nawguralek/ Nawguralek	ohodd a-tent/Nowgooraa lek/ Nowgooraa lek