



سنقدم بثقة
Moving Forward
With Confidence



To:

Pharmacist Incharge, Armed Forces Hospital (AT Khoudh & Salalah)
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, Royal Hospital
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, Khoula Hospital
Pharmacist Incharge, Al Nahda Hospital
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, Muscat Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, Al Dakhliya Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, South Batinah Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, North Batinah Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, Al Dhahira Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, North Sharqiya Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, South Sharqiya Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, Musandam Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, Dhofar Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, Al Wusta Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGHS, Buraimi Governorate
Director of Pharmaceutical Care, DGMS
Pharmacist Incharge, Al Massarah Hospital
HOD, Pharmacy Department, Sultan Qaboos University Hospital
Pharmacist Incharge, Royal Oman Police
Pharmacist Incharge, The Diwan
Pharmacist Incharge, The Sultan's Special Force
Pharmacist Incharge, Internal Security Services
Pharmacist Incharge, Petroleum Development of Oman
Pharmacist Incharge, LNG Oman

After Compliments,

Kindly find attached our Circular No 52 dated 14/05/2026 Regarding Update to Health Care Professionals About Finasteride and Dutasteride – updated safety warnings for psychiatric side effects and sexual dysfunction.

Copy to:

- Director of Pharmacovigilance Department, DSC
- Director of Medicine Registration Department, DSC
- Director of Regulatory Compliance Department, DSC
- Director of Central Quality Control Lab., DSC
- Director of Medical Device Department, DSC
- Section Head of Medicine Safety Evaluation
- Section Head of Quality Problems and Medication Errors.
- Section Head of Pharmacovigilance
- Section Head of Clinical Trials



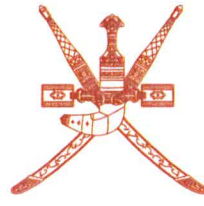
DSC
مركز سلامة الدواء
Drug Safety Center



ص ب: ٣٩٣ مسقط - الرمز البريدي: ١٠٠ - هاتف: ٢٢٣٥٧١١١ - فاكس: ٢٢٣٥٨٤٨٩

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Circular No. **52**/2026

27-11-1447 H

14-05-2026

Subject: Finasteride and Dutasteride – updated safety warnings for psychiatric side effects and sexual dysfunction

The Drug Safety Center (DSC) would like to share a new safety information published by Medicine and Health products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) regarding **Finasteride and Dutasteride – updated safety warnings for psychiatric side effects and sexual dysfunction.**

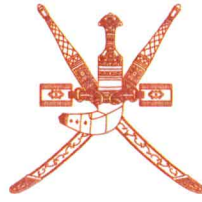
Finasteride is a 5 alpha-reductase-inhibitor. The 1mg dose is indicated in men for the treatment of male pattern hair loss (androgenetic alopecia). The 5mg dose is indicated for the treatment and control of benign prostatic hyperplasia in adults.

Dutasteride is also a 5-alpha-reductase-inhibitor. It is indicated for the treatment of benign prostatic hyperplasia (0.5 milligram daily dose) and reduction in the risk of acute urinary retention.

Advice for Healthcare Professionals:

- finasteride is associated with **depression, suicidal ideation and sexual dysfunction** which may persist after treatment is stopped.
- inform patients of the risks at point of prescribing and advise patients to read the Finasteride **patient cards and the patient leaflet** for finasteride which are both supplied in the 1 mg and 5 mg packs.
- **the product information** for finasteride 1 mg will be updated with a warning that **sexual dysfunction may contribute to mood disorders**, and that **sexual dysfunction has also been reported without mood alterations.**
- when prescribing finasteride, **review their medical record**, ask patients if they have a history of depression or suicidal ideation and **review patients regularly** for psychiatric and/or sexual side effects.
- patients prescribed finasteride 1 mg should **stop taking** the medicine if they develop suicidal thoughts or depression and contact their healthcare professional as soon as possible.
- patients prescribed finasteride 5mg or dutasteride **should consult** their healthcare professional as soon as possible if they develop suicidal thoughts or depression.
- dutasteride works in a similar way to finasteride – therefore, as a precaution, **a warning will be added to the dutasteride product information** that mood alterations have been reported with the same class of medicine (finasteride).
- patients prescribed **finasteride or dutasteride** should contact their healthcare professional if they experience sexual dysfunction.





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Advice for Healthcare Professionals to Provide to Patients:

- finasteride is associated with **low mood, depression, suicidal thoughts and sexual dysfunction** (decreased sex drive, erectile dysfunction and ejaculation disorders).
- before taking finasteride, read and keep the Finasteride **patient cards and patient information leaflet** within your pack and inform your doctor if you have any personal history of depression or suicidal thoughts.
- if you have **seriously** harmed yourself or feel you are **at risk of serious harm**, contact your doctor as soon as possible.
- **stop finasteride 1mg immediately** if you develop depression or suicidal thoughts and contact your doctor as soon as possible
- if you are prescribed finasteride 5mg or dutasteride and you **develop** depression or suicidal thoughts, contact your doctor as soon as possible
- if prescribed finasteride or dutasteride and you experience **decreased** sex drive, difficulty having an erection or ejaculation problems you should contact your doctor for medical advice

Call to report:

Finasteride and Dutasteride are registered in Oman, healthcare professionals, patients, and caregivers are requested to submit adverse drug reaction reports to the pharmacovigilance department in the Drug Safety Center.

Ph. Ibrahim Nasser Al Rashdi
Director General

