

Maltese Association of Psychiatric Nurses  
mapsynurses@gmail.com  
www.mapnmalta.net

**17th June 2019**

**To:** Editor

**Re: Mental Health Nurses**

The Maltese Association of Psychiatric Nurses (MAPN) would like to thank and praise all the nurses who work in the mental health sector. Despite the dire situation portrayed in the media recently, that can leave nurses feeling undermined and demoralized, nurses continue to do their utmost in providing care and support to people with mental health problems and who require mental health interventions.

In spite of the stigma surrounding Mount Carmel Hospital and the negativity portrayed in news events, nurses continue to show dedication and good will. Nurses working in mental health provide complex and sophisticated interventions, which more often than not, they go unnoticed, or worse they are portrayed as antiquated institutionalized practices. It is irresponsible to depict systems which are in place to ensure risk management and the safety of patients as demeaning practices.

Without denying the need for a whole reform in the mental health services, the association would like to emphasize that nurses continue to strive in providing optimum care to individuals who need their care, and will continue doing so, whether the care is provided from a new hospital, the community or a Victorian institution.

The Maltese Association of Psychiatric Nurses is committed to empower and promote the nursing profession in mental health, and while recognizing the effect certain media reports can leave on their morale, it encourage its members to continue doing their job with dedication and responsibility.

Sincerely,

**Pierre Galea**  
**President - Maltese Association of Psychiatric Nurses**