

MENTAL HEALTH ACT 2001: INVOLUNTARY ADMISSION PROCEDURE FOR ADULTS

STEP 1

Applicant

- Spouse/Relative of the person (Form 1)
- Authorised Officer (Form 2)
- Member of an Garda Síochána (Form 3)
- Any other person/Member of the public (Form 4)

is concerned that the person may have a mental disorder and within 48 hours of observing the person makes an application by completing the appropriate form [no.'s 1-4]

STEP 2

Application received by the Registered Medical Practitioner (RMP) (e.g. GP)

within 24 hours of receipt of application

RMP **examines** person [examine process and content of thought, the mood and the behaviour of the person concerned] and **informs** the person of the purpose of the examination [unless to do so, would in the RMP's opinion be prejudicial to the person's mental health, well-being or emotional condition]

RMP **satisfied** the person has a mental disorder [as defined in the MHA 2001 S3(I)]

RMP **not satisfied** the person has a mental disorder [as defined in the MHA 2001 S3(I)]

RMP **makes a recommendation (Form 5)** (recommendation remains in force for 7 days)

Refuses to make a recommendation

RMP **sends the recommendation to Clinical Director of the Approved Centre** and **gives a copy of the recommendation to the applicant**

Applicant may seek a second opinion. [In such instances all of the facts relating to the previous application in so far as they are known by the applicant, must be made known to the RMP from whom the second opinion is sought] (MHA 2001 S11)

STEP 3

Applicant is responsible for securing the removal of the person to the relevant Approved Centre

Where the applicant is unable to arrange such removal

- At the request of the RMP, the Clinical Director of the Approved Centre (or consultant psychiatrist acting on his/her behalf) shall arrange for the removal of the person to the Approved Centre by members of staff of the Approved Centre.
- Where the RMP and the Clinical Director (or a Consultant Psychiatrist acting on his/her behalf) are of the opinion that there is a serious likelihood of the person concerned causing immediate and serious harm to self or others the Clinical Director (or a Consultant Psychiatrist acting on his/her behalf) may request an Garda Síochána to assist members of staff of the Approved Centre in removal of the person to the centre concerned and an Garda Síochána are obliged to assist (MHA 2001 S13).

STEP 4

