

Mental Health Act

MHAoutlineguide2006.pdf

2 essential things

- 1 suffering mental illness
- 2 need detention for treatment of it or to protect themselves or others

3

4

5 Various section seems confusion what can be applied in ED. Probably [section 4](#).

6 [Section 2](#)

7 [Section 3](#)

8 [Section 4](#)

9 [Section 5\(2\)](#)

10 [Section 136](#)

Definitions

Mental disorder is defined as 'mental illness, arrested or incomplete development of mind, psychopathic disorder and any other disorder or disability of mind'.

Four categories of mental disorder are specified as follows:

* **Mental illness**: not defined.

- * **Severe mental impairment**: 'a state of arrested or incomplete development of mind, which includes severe impairment of intelligence and social functioning and is associated with abnormally aggressive or seriously irresponsible conduct on the part of the person concerned'.

-

* **Mental impairment**: defined in the same way as severe mental impairment except that the phrase 'severe impairment' is replaced by 'significant impairment'.

* **Psychopathic disorder**: 'a persistent disorder or disability of mind (whether or not including significant impairment of intelligence) that results in abnormally aggressive or seriously irresponsible conduct on the part of the person concerned'.

A 23 year old man presents alone to A&E department shouting that we have to contact “the famous people in London” because the Earth is in danger from an Alien invasion. If we don’t contact the famous people than he will have to kill his next door neighbour as he is directing the Alien fleet towards Earth. He is very difficult to control and says he has a gun at home with which he can kill the neighbour.

He allows himself to be booked in but the contact numbers he supplies are unavailable or not answering and he is not previously known to the department.

You decided that he needs to be kept in hospital under the mental health act. You try to contact the psychiatrist on call but she cannot answer you as it turns out that she is currently dealing with a violent patient on one of the wards in psychie home who is holding a nurse a hostage. Patient is becoming increasingly anxious and agitated threatening to run off any minute. Under which section of the act could you detain this patient “off your own back” in the department and what do you need to do for the patient to become “eligible”. How long can you keep the patient, who do you need to inform that you have done so? 3 points

You manage to calm the patient down and he agrees to wait for a little longer while you try get him some transport to London sorted. After telephone conversation with psychiatrist he says he is coming in because he thinks they need to section him and asks if you can assemble the relevant people. Who would you call and what section will he then be able to apply for? 2 points

What are the 4 categories of mental disorder?- 4 points

What is the legal definition of Mental Illness? 1 point

Policemen can remove people from a public place who is believed to be suffering from mental illness.
Taken to place of safety for assesement by approved doctor and social worker.
Remain on section until this happens.
Either discharged or detained under [section 2](#) or [section 3](#)

Admission for assessment need

- 1 approved social worker (or relative) makes application plus
- 2 2 other doctors one whom is approved by act and one who should know patient professionally if not then 2nd should also be approved
- 3 lasts for 28 days

For treatment upto 6 months

- exact mental disorder must be stated
- 2 doctors must sign forms and know why Rx in community is contraindicated
- they must have seen patient within 24hrs
- must state patient will benefit or prevent deterioration or protect others

Emergency Treatment 72 hours

admission to hospital urgent necessity

seems confusion whether be applied in ED need

- approved social worker or relative makes application on recommendation of 1 doctor(can be any registered doctor)
- apparent bad practice not often used in ED????
- whilst awaiting for [section 2](#)

if admitted in hospital (and there's the rub for ED) stands 72 hours
doctor in charge applies to hospital administrator
plan where patient goes before 72 hours up