

Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand Hauora a Toi Bay of Plenty	ACUTE CARE TEAM / DAO & INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC UNIT STAFF INTERFACE	Protocol CM.M6.1
CLINICAL PRACTICE MANUAL		

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this protocol is to provide guidance for Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand Hauora a Toi Bay of Plenty Mental Health & Addiction Services (MH&AS) staff to:

- Ensure quality treatment & care for proposed tāngata whai ora / service users who are brought to Te Whare Maiangiāngi Inpatient Psychiatric Unit (IPU) for assessment in accordance with the Mental Health Act 1992.
- Provide clear specification of roles and responsibilities for staff during the assessment and admission of proposed tāngata whai ora / service users to Te Whare Maiangiāngi IPU.
- Ensure compliance with relevant Ministry of Health guidelines and the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment & Treatment) Act (MHA) 1992 and Amendments.

STANDARDS TO BE MET

1. In situations where Acute Care Team / DAO staff bring proposed patients to an IPU, the Acute Care Team / DAO staff member is in charge of the situation including MHA documentation until the proposed patient has been assessed and is subject to section 11 of the MHA. The Acute Care Team / DAO staff are normally expected to remain in the vicinity of the place of assessment until the section 10 examination is completed.
2. The Acute Care Team / DAO staff will communicate with the Associate Clinical Nurse Manager (ACNM) / Shift Co-ordinator on entrance to the unit the needs of tāngata whai ora / service user including risk, comfort and staff safety while waiting assessment under the MHA. ACNM / Shift Co-ordinator will assist to facilitate food and fluid for tāngata whai ora / service user, access to a duress alarm and supported monitoring of safety for Acute Care Team members).
3. Under some circumstances it is acceptable for Acute Care Team staff to negotiate with ACNM / Shift Co-ordinator absence from direct tāngata whai ora / service user support. This may occur when there is a delay between issuing of the section 9 notice and the section 10 examination. An Acute Care Team / DAO must remain present on the unit. The nurse in charge of the shift may:
 - a) Inform the Duty Nurse Manager (DNM)
 - b) Encourage the Acute Care Team to remain in the place of assessment e.g. main hospital) with Security until a bed can be arranged and the tāngata whai ora / service user has completed the MHA process.
4. The nurse in charge will nominate one or more of the ward staff to carry out whatever procedures and interventions are required. If the staff member is a Health Care Assistant, they will work under the direction and supervision of a Registered Nurse (RN).
5. The IPU admission process to the unit including relevant admission document is a shared responsibility as per [CPM.M5.9 Admission to Acute Inpatient Unit – MHAS](#).
6. Acute Care Team / DAO staff will ensure MHA documentation is complete, whether the proposed tāngata whai ora / service user is continued on the MHA or not. Acute Care Team is to scan and forward documentation to the MHA Administrator. The original copy remains in the tāngata whai ora / service user's file. The clinical note by Acute Care Team / DAO staff will indicate staff involved in the MHA assessment and outcome.
7. After the section 11 of the MHA has been progressed, clinical care of the tāngata whai ora / service user is handed over to and accepted by the ACNM / Shift Co-ordinator.

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8. Where the assessment does not progress to a section 11 and the tāngata whai ora / service user is not admitted, treatment of the person will be a matter of negotiation between the Acute Care Team staff, the tāngata whai ora / service user, or the tāngata whai ora / service user's family / whānau.

REFERENCES

- Guidelines For The Role And Function Of Duly Authorised Officers Under The Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment And Treatment) Act 1992 1 April 2000
- Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment & Treatment) Act 1992 & Amendments

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- [Te Whatu Ora Hauora a Toi Mental Health & Addiction Services protocol CPM.M5.9 Admission to Acute Inpatient Unit](#)

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