

Memo

To: Approved Mental Health Facilities
Copy to: TASCAT

From: Professor Dinesh Arya, Chief Psychiatrist
Date: 17 May 2024

Subject: TASCAT (Mental Health Stream) Matters

1. Before using any room for a clinical assessment, it is important that safety for all involved is ensured. This includes ensuring that necessary staff/security support is available.

When it comes to the TASCAT hearing, if there are any safety concerns about an in-person attendance of a person at the hearing, please communicate it explicitly to TASCAT so that a decision can be made on whether the hearing should proceed virtually.

2. Legal Order Coordinators (LoCs) play a critical role in our system to quality-check that forms are completed fully and correctly. Please be responsive to their calls and assist them in ensuring there are no errors in the forms going to TASCAT.
3. Updated Chief Psychiatrist Standing Orders and Guidelines will be available on the website soon. If there is a question or clarification is needed about Mental Health Act requirements, please get in touch with the Office of Chief Psychiatrist rather than TASCAT (unless it is a TASCAT process-specific question).
4. TASCAT allocates specific days for hearings at each service. Whenever possible, the hearing booked on these days should not be changed. If there is a need to change a hearing on the specified day because of an unavoidable reason (e.g., unavailability of a key clinician), please let TASCAT know well in advance so that they can make alternate arrangements.

Kind regards



Professor Dinesh Arya
Chief Psychiatrist
17 May 2024