

## Memo

**To:** All approved facilities under the Mental Health Act  
**From:** Professor Dinesh Arya, Chief Psychiatrist  
**Date:** 8 July 2024

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**Subject:** Urgent Circumstances Treatment Orders while on an Assessment Orders

I have been made aware of treatment having been given to a patient on an assessment order without completion of an Urgent Circumstances Treatment Order.

- Please be aware that an assessment order is **NOT** the authority for a patient to be given any treatment.
- If a patient on an **Assessment Order** requires urgent treatment, it must be given under the Urgent Circumstance Treatment provisions.

*An Urgent Circumstances Treatment Form C08/F08 **MUST** be completed.*

- Can I also take the opportunity to remind everyone that a person on a **Treatment Order** can only be given treatment in accordance with the treatment, or types of treatment, authorised under the order.

*Treatment other than that authorised by the Tribunal can only be given without informed consent or Tribunal authorisation if an **Approved Medical Practitioner (AMP)** authorises the treatment as being urgently needed in respect of the patient.*

Before giving Urgent Circumstances Treatment the AMP must be satisfied following an assessment that:

1. The treatment is necessary for the patient's health or safety, or the safety of other persons; AND
2. Waiting for the treatment to be authorised by the Tribunal would compromise the outcomes or the effectiveness of treatment.