

Flowchart for Further Opinions

Mental Health Act 2014

Rights explained to patient/carer/other, including right to request a **Further Opinion**.

Request for further opinion from patient/carer/other re treatment or re continuation order for CTO
(NB: Legal Status review is through MHT)

Options discussed with Patient/Carer/Other requesting the opinion, by treating team.



- **Fact Sheet** given and explained
- **Further Opinion Template** completed with patient/carer and filed in medical record.

Psychiatrist **facilitates request** and accesses psychiatrist to provide further opinion considering patient wishes, cultural and specialist needs.

- **Further Opinion Template** provided to psychiatrist providing further opinion.

Psychiatrist/delegate **logs request** with Clinical Director/ Head of Service
(*If psychiatrist providing further opinion needs **credentialing**, notify Director of Clinical Services).

Further Opinion Psychiatrist **completes further opinion**, if practicable, within timeframes



- Within **3 days** for same Health Service site
- Within **5 days** outside Health Service site
- As soon as practicable for private psychiatrist



- **Further Opinion Template** used for report
- **Copies given to patient/carer/medical notes/Clinical Director/ Chief Psychiatrist.**

Patient's psychiatrist is to have regard to recommendations within the further opinion.

- Psychiatrist **explains recommendations** from the further opinion to patient/carer/other.

- If patient is dissatisfied they can request **reconsideration** of treatment by the Chief Psychiatrist or request an **additional opinion** from the Chief Psychiatrist or their psychiatrist.
- Chief Psychiatrist or psychiatrist can **refuse the request** for an **additional opinion**.

Clinical Director/Head of Service to provide further opinion data collected to OMH/OCP as required.

For further information see Clinicians' Practice Guide (Office of the Chief Psychiatrist) and the Further Opinions under the MHA 2014 Operational Directive