

## MENTAL HEALTH

### EMERGENCY DETENTION CERTIFICATE

#### WHY?

An emergency detention certificate allows a person to be held in hospital for up to 72 hours while their condition is assessed.

The purpose of an emergency detention certificate is to allow assessment in hospital with a view to deciding if medical treatment for the patient's mental disorder is required. During this time treatment should not be given without the patient's consent, unless treated under a different law (the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000), or you need treatment is required urgently e.g. lifesaving.

It should be issued if all these criteria of the Mental Health Act are met:

36(4) - The patient has a mental disorder and that due to this, the patient's ability to make decisions about the provision of medical treatment is significantly impaired.

36(5) - It is necessary as a matter of urgency to detain the patient in hospital for the purpose of determining what medical treatment requires to be provided to the patient and that making arrangements with a view to the grant of a short-term detention certificate would involve undesirable delay.

If the patient were not detained in hospital there would be a significant risk to either :

- the health, safety or welfare of the patient
- the safety of any other person

#### PROCEDURE

Recommended by a doctor & ideally agreed with a mental health officer.

1. Contact psychiatry & discuss with an Approved Medical Practitioner (AMP)
  - Liaison psychiatry : Mon-Fri 9-5 24417
  - Parkhead Hospital : OOH 28300
2. Contact Mental Health Officer
  - Mon – Thurs 8.45-4.45 & Friday 8.45-3.55 : 0141 211 8480
  - OOH : 0141 305 6705
3. Complete EDC Part 1 & photocopy for notes
  - By midnight on day of examination or within 4 hours if after 20.00
4. EDC goes with the patient to Parkhead hospital or the ward
  - Mental Welfare Commission must be contacted within 12 hours by medical records or nurse in charge of ward

## **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER?**

A psychiatrist should examine the patient as soon as possible.

If they believe it is not necessary for you to be detained in hospital under the Act, then he/she will revoke the emergency detention certificate. The patient will then be able to leave the hospital, or to stay as a voluntary patient, if agreeable. If he/she believes that you do need to be detained in hospital, then they may grant a short-term detention certificate.