



Transcript: Involuntary Treatment

Name	Dialogue / Actions
Richard	<p>Hi again. I'm Richard. Peter, who we met in the previous scenario, was assessed at the Blue Waters Authorised Mental Health Service as meeting the treatment criteria in the Mental Health Act. Listen to the conversation between Edward, an authorised mental health practitioner and Matilda, the authorised doctor (who's not a psychiatrist), who carried out the assessment.</p>
Matilda	<p>I assessed Peter within the assessment period and he definitely has a mental illness and requires immediate treatment. Also, there is an imminent risk that he will harm himself. In addition, there is no less restrictive way to provide treatment as Peter is not willing to stay for treatment and in his current state he lacks the capacity to consent to treatment.</p> <p>On this basis, I have completed the involuntary treatment order (inpatient category) and noted the time that I made the order and the basis on which I believed the treatment criteria were applicable.</p> <p>I have told Peter that an involuntary treatment order has been made which authorises involuntary treatment and his detention as an inpatient. Could you please sit down with Peter and go through his <i>treatment plan</i> with him as I'm unsure how much of what I have told him, he understands, given his current mental state, although I did involve him in the development of the plan as much as possible.</p> <p>We need to commence Peter on 15-minute visual observations as outlined in his <i>treatment plan</i>.</p>
Edward	<p>I'll contact the ward and coordinate a bed and admission.</p>
Matilda	<p>Peter will need a second examination by an authorised psychiatrist, which must be undertaken as soon as possible and, in any case, within 72 hours from when I signed the involuntary treatment order. The psychiatrist needs to determine whether the treatment criteria in the Mental Health Act apply. If the psychiatrist is not satisfied the treatment criteria apply, the psychiatrist must revoke the involuntary treatment order. However, the treatment outlined in his <i>treatment plan</i> can still be administered until the second examination has occurred.</p> <p>If Peter had been living in an area where it was necessary for the authorised doctor to carry out the assessment via an audio-visual link, a second examination would've been required to be carried out in person by an authorised psychiatrist. The Mental Health Act allows a second examination to be undertaken by the same psychiatrist who made the order. That is, the order is made on an examination conducted by audio-visual link and the second examination is face-to-face.</p>



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Richard	<p>Edward then sat with Peter and determined that he was able to engage in a conversation and took the opportunity to go through the treatment plan with him.</p> <p>He explained that the proposed treatment would involve the use of medication to help stop the voices and cognitive behaviour therapy to assist him to deal with the anxiety he experienced. Also outlined was which staff would be providing the services he needed and that these services would be ongoing while he remained an inpatient. In addition, it was explained that his treatment plan would be regularly reviewed by an authorised doctor.</p> <p>The conversation was noted in Peter's clinical file and that he appeared to understand the conversation and was able to ask questions.</p>
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