



MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

INFORMATION CONCERNING DRH INVOLVEMENT IN SERVICES & PROCEDURES WHEN THE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION & FINANCE LIES WITH OTHER AUTHORITIES

1. Supervised Community Treatment

Purpose of SCT

The purpose of SCT is to allow suitable patients to be safely treated in the Community rather than under detention in hospital and to provide a way to help prevent relapse and any harm to the patient or to others.

Who can be discharged onto SCT

Only patients who are detained in hospital for treatment under Section 3 of the Act, or are unrestricted Part 3 patients can be considered for SCT

SCT is an option only for patients that meet the criteria set out in the Act:

- The patient is suffering from a mental disorder of a nature or degree which makes it appropriate for them to receive medical treatment.
- It is necessary for the patient's health or safety or for the protection of others that the patient should receive such treatment
- Subject to the patient being liable to be recalled such treatment can be provided without the patient continuing to be detained in a hospital
- It is necessary that the Responsible Clinician should be able to exercise the power under Section 17E(1) of the Act to recall the patient to hospital; and
- Appropriate medical treatment is available for the patient.

(it is not necessary for a patient to be recalled to the hospital from which he/she has been discharged)

Assessment for SCT

The decision as to whether SCT is the right option for any patient is taken by the Responsible Clinician and requires the agreement of an Approved Mental Health Professional

Making the Community Treatment Order

If the RC and AMHP agree that the patient should be discharged onto SCT they should complete the relevant statutory forms and arrangements for the patient's discharge should be made. The conditions to which the patient must comply must be explained to him/her by the RC or AMHP.

The patient will then be discharged from DRH into the care of the responsible authority. Copies of statutory forms transferring responsibility to another Authority must be kept on file in the patient's notes.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE THE CODE OF PRACTICE
Mental Health Act 1983 – CHAPTER 25**