

# CHIEF PSYCHIATRIST APPROVED FORM – FORENSIC 08

## URGENT CIRCUMSTANCES TREATMENT

Mental Health Act 2013

Section 87

THCI (Patient ID): \_\_\_\_\_

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Given Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_ / \_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  M  F  TG / IT

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFIX STICKER HERE**

(Tick  as appropriate, format time as 00:00 (24 hour) and date as DD/MM/YYYY)

## AUTHORISATION OF URGENT CIRCUMSTANCES TREATMENT

### APPROVED MEDICAL PRACTITIONER TO COMPLETE

**Patient** (full name in BLOCK letters):

**Approved Medical Practitioner** approving the Urgent Circumstances Treatment (full name in BLOCK letters):

I confirm that the patient named above has been assessed on: **Date:** DD / MM / YYYY **Time:** 00 : 00

I have concluded from the assessment that:

The patient has a mental illness that is generally in need of treatment, **AND**

The urgent circumstances treatment is necessary for:

The patient's health or safety, **OR**

The safety of other persons, **AND**

The urgent circumstances treatment is necessary in terms of the outcomes referred to in section 6(1) of the Act, **AND**

Achieving the necessary treatment outcome would be compromised by waiting for the urgent circumstances treatment to be authorised by the TASCAT (or by a member thereof on an interim basis).

## AUTHORISATION

I authorise the following treatment as being urgently needed in respect of the patient (provide details below):

Benzodiazepines

Antidepressants

Antipsychotics

Anticholinergics

Mood stabilisers

Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)

Other (specify):

**Date/time treatment authorised:**

**Date:** DD / MM / YYYY **Time:** 00 : 00

**Signature:**

**COPY TO:**  Patient  Chief Psychiatrist  TASCAT  Legal Orders Coordinator

If there is consent – copy to patient support person/representative

If patient is a child copy to parent/support person/representative

**OTHER:**  Statement of Rights provided to patient

Explanation to patient in a language and form that the patient can understand



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### URGENT CIRCUMSTANCES TREATMENT – INSTRUCTIONAL INFORMATION

A forensic patient may be given treatment (urgent circumstances treatment) without informed consent or TASCAT authorisation if an approved medical practitioner (AMP) authorises the treatment as being urgently needed in respect of the patient.

An AMP may authorise treatment as being urgently needed only if the AMP is of the opinion that achieving the necessary treatment outcome would be compromised by waiting for the urgent circumstances treatment to be authorised by TASCAT (or by a member on an interim basis).

The AMP may give the authorisation if, and only if, as a result of an assessment of the patient, the practitioner is satisfied that -

- The patient has a mental illness that is generally in need of treatment, and
- The urgent circumstances treatment is necessary for the patient's health or safety or the safety of other persons, and
- The urgent circumstances treatment is necessary in terms of the outcomes referred to in section 6(1) of the Act, and
- Achieving the necessary treatment outcome would be compromised by waiting for the urgent circumstances treatment to be authorised by TASCAT (or by a member on an interim basis).

Treatment is defined in section 6(1) of the Act to mean the professional intervention necessary to

- Prevent or remedy mental illness; or
- Manage and alleviate, where possible, the ill effects of mental illness; or
- Reduce the risk that persons with mental illness may, on that account, pose to themselves or others; or
- Assess a person's mental state.

However, this professional intervention does not extend to, special psychiatric treatment; or a termination of pregnancy; or a procedure that could render a person permanently infertile; or the removal, for transplantation, of human tissue that cannot thereafter be replaced by natural processes of growth or repair; or general health care.

For the purposes of this act 'treatment,' does not include seclusion, chemical restraint, mechanical restraint or physical restraint.

**The authorisation may be given by any means of communication the AMP considers appropriate in the circumstances but, if it is given orally, the AMP is to confirm it in writing using this form.**

If the authorisation is given, the AMP has the following obligations:

- To ensure that the patient is advised of the authorisation as soon as possible after it is given;
- To give a copy of the authorisation to the Chief Psychiatrist and TASCAT;
- To give a copy of the authorisation to the patient (together with a statement of rights);
- To place a copy of the authorisation on the patient's clinical record;
- If there is consent from the patient, a copy is to be given to the persons support person/representative;
- If the patient is a child, a copy is to be given to their parent(s), carer or support person.

If the authorisation is given, the patient may be given the urgent circumstances treatment until whichever of the following first occurs:

- The treatment is completed;
- The AMP, for any reason they think sufficient, stops the treatment;
- The 96 hour period immediately following the giving of the authorisation expires;
- The assessment order, treatment order or interim treatment order ceases or is discharged;
- The authorisation is set aside by TASCAT.

**Note:** The authorisation of urgent circumstances treatment is reviewable by TASCAT– See Division 2 of Part 3 of Chapter 3.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

**Chief Psychiatrist:**

Phone: (03) 6166 0778

Email: [chief.psychiatrist@health.tas.gov.au](mailto:chief.psychiatrist@health.tas.gov.au)

**TASCAT – Protective Stream:**

Phone: (03) 6165 7491

Email: [applications.mentalhealth@tascat.tas.gov.au](mailto:applications.mentalhealth@tascat.tas.gov.au)