

GUIDANCE ON SUPERVISED ASSESSMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Practitioners applying under Criteria B or C for inclusion on the Section 12(2) register are required to undertake “supervised assessments”. There has been uncertainty as to what constitutes supervised assessment and this note is for guidance.

For convenience the aspiring section 12 practitioner will be referred to in the guidance as “the trainee” and the supervising Section 12 Consultant will be referred to as the “supervisor”.

GUIDANCE

1. A supervised assessment will involve the trainee undertaking a mental health act assessment under direct supervision of a supervisor who will invariably be a Consultant approved for section 12 work on the South West register and who would not necessarily be senior to the trainee. The supervisor cannot function as the second recommending doctor
2. Each assessment must be completed in order to count as one of the four required supervised assessments.

An assessment is complete when the trainee has been present throughout the assessment process until completion i.e a decision is made in respect of the suitability or otherwise of that individual for detention.

Assessments begun but not completed cannot count.

3. Trainees are expected to be actively involved in the process and to lead the process, the supervisor’s role being to observe the trainee in action in both the assessment of the patient and the necessary discussion with colleagues and the approved social worker and with representatives of other agencies.
4. The supervisor is expected to critically appraise the trainee’s aptitude in respect of carrying out section 12 work with particular reference to their understanding of and ability to explain mental health act principles to service users, professional colleagues and representatives of other agencies and to complete the necessary forms in respect of those assessments (copy attached). The trainee cannot, of course, complete the formal recommendations which must be done by the S12(2) approved practitioner.
5. We hope that the requirement for supervised assessments will provide not only a forum for proper appraisal of trainees but also the opportunity for mutual development of professional practice through “live” case discussion for both trainees and supervisors.

Chair of the South West Section 12 Panel

SECTION 12(2) MENTAL HEALTH ACT 1983 **MHA.7**
SUPERVISED MENTAL HEALTH ACT ASSESSMENT FORM

Doctors applying under criteria B or C need to undertake two supervised mental health act assessments.

PATIENTS PERSONAL INFORMATION IS NOT REQUIRED ON THIS FORM

Name of Supervising Section 12(2) Consultant

Name of Section 12 Candidate

Date of assessment

Place of assessment:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Home | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Police Station | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Care Home | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify) | |

Town/County of assessment

Time of assessment:

| |
|-------------------|
| Commencement..... |
| Completion |

Section implemented (circle appropriate Section): 2 3 4 5(2) 7 35 37 135 136 Other None

Designation of second doctor:

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Own GP | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Second Section 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Police Surgeon (not Section 12 Approved) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify) | |

Applicant:

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| AMHP | |
| Nearest Relative (please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Has the trainee demonstrated requisite communication skill with regard to the Mental Health Act?
YES NO

Any comments about the case:

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Supervising Section 12 doctor's comments on Section 12 candidate's understanding of the process

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Signature of Supervising Section 12 Consultant**Date**

Are you in a Substantive or Locum Consultant Post?.....If locum how long have you been in your current post?.....

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