

Western Australia's: Community Treatment Orders

Community Treatment Orders (CTOs) require individuals to accept outpatient treatment or hospital release conditioned on treatment compliance.

Western Australia's Eligibility Criteria: All of the following must obtain for a person to be treated as an involuntary patient either as an inpatient or an outpatient (s 26.1),

- (a) the person has a mental illness requiring treatment;
- (b) the treatment can be provided through detention in an authorized hospital or through a community treatment order and is required to be so provided in order —
 - (i) to protect the health or safety of that person or any other person;
 - (ii) to protect the person from self-inflicted harm; or
 - (iii) to prevent the person doing serious damage to any property;
- (c) the person has refused or, due to the nature of the mental illness, is unable to consent to the treatment; and
- (d) ***the treatment cannot be adequately provided in a way that would involve less restriction of the freedom*** of choice and movement of the person than would result from the person being an involuntary patient.

How is outpatient commitment implemented in Western Australia?

- ***Continuing detention as an involuntary inpatient (s. 51) in an authorized hospital is authorized until*** —(a) the end of the inpatient order; (b) it is ordered that the person is no longer an involuntary patient; or (c) ***the person becomes the subject of a community treatment order, whichever is first.***
- An authorised psychiatrist makes the Order and the authorised psychiatrist or their delegate must monitor the treatment.
- Patients may be placed on orders following hospital discharge or directly from the community
- The Order can be revoked by an authorised psychiatrist for non-compliance
- Patients whose treatment orders are revoked may be apprehended by the police and taken to an inpatient facility

Entry to hospital occurs with somewhat less involved procedural safeguards than that of a direct admission. It is in effect a return from conditional leave.