



Mental Health Act 1983

1983 CHAPTER 20

PART II

COMPULSORY ADMISSION TO HOSPITAL AND GUARDIANSHIP

[^{F1}Duration of authority and discharge]

24 Visiting and examination of patients.

- (1) For the purpose of advising as to the exercise by the nearest relative of a patient who is liable to be detained or subject to guardianship under this Part of this Act [^{F1}, or who is a community patient,] of any power to order his discharge, any registered medical practitioner [^{F2}or approved clinician] authorised by or on behalf of the nearest relative of the patient may, at any reasonable time, visit the patient and examine him in private.
- (2) Any registered medical practitioner [^{F2}or approved clinician] authorised for the purposes of subsection (1) above to visit and examine a patient may require the production of and inspect any records relating to the detention or treatment of the patient in any hospital [^{F3}or to any after-care services provided for the patient under section 117 below.].

^{F4}(3)

^{F4}(4)

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 24(1) inserted (3.11.2008) by [Mental Health Act 2007 \(c. 12\)](#), ss. 32, 56, [Sch. 3 para. 11\(2\)](#) (with [Sch. 10](#)); [S.I. 2008/1900, art. 2\(i\)](#) (with [art. 3, Sch.](#))
- F2** Words in s. 24 inserted (3.11.2008) by [Mental Health Act 2007 \(c. 12\)](#), [ss. 9\(7\)](#), 56, (with [Sch. 10](#)); [S.I. 2008/1900, art. 2\(b\)](#) (with [art. 3, Sch.](#))
- F3** Words in s. 24(2)(4) inserted (1.4.1996) by 1995 c. 52, ss. 1(2), 7(2), [Sch. 1, para. 1](#)
- F4** [S. 24\(3\)\(4\)](#) omitted (1.7.2012) by virtue of [Health and Social Care Act 2012 \(c. 7\)](#), [ss. 39\(2\)](#), 306(4); [S.I. 2012/1319, art. 2\(3\)](#)

Status:

Point in time view as at 01/07/2012.

Changes to legislation:

Mental Health Act 1983, Section 24 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.