



Mental Health Act 1959

1959 CHAPTER 72

PART IV

COMPULSORY ADMISSION TO HOSPITAL AND GUARDIANSHIP

Care and treatment of patients

38 Re-classification of patients

- (1) If in the case of a patient who is for the time being detained in a hospital in pursuance of an application for admission for treatment, or subject to guardianship in pursuance of a guardianship application, it appears to the responsible medical officer that the patient is suffering from a form of mental disorder other than the form or forms specified in the application, he may furnish to the managers of the hospital, or to the guardian, as the case may be, a report to that effect; and where a report is so furnished, the application shall have effect as if that other form of mental disorder were specified therein.
- (2) Where a report is furnished under this section, in respect of a patient who has attained the age of sixteen years, the managers or guardian shall cause the patient and the nearest relative to be informed, and the patient or that relative may, within the period of twenty-eight days beginning with the day on which he is so informed, apply to a Mental Health Review Tribunal.
- (3) In relation to a patient who is subject to the guardianship of a person other than a local health authority, this section shall have effect as if for any reference to the responsible medical officer there were substituted a reference to the nominated medical attendant of the patient.