

P02-74 - A CRITICAL REVIEW OF PATIENTS UNDER SECTION 5(2) OF THE MENTAL HEALTH ACT

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Patients who suffer from mental illness, and are a risk to themselves, to other people or at risk of self neglect . Such patients can be detained under section 5(2), if they are already admitted to hospital and express their wish to leave against medical advice.

44 patients were identified. 40% were men, 65% above the age of 50 years, 52% were sectioned after hours or at the weekends. Measures to persuade patients to stay as an informal patient were taken in 16%. 55% were sectioned by the on call doctor.68.5 % exhibited threatening behaviour.30% had self neglect, 13% were a risk to others, 26% had a deliberate self harm risk.

60% had moderate to severe suicidal risk and ideation.

68% didn't have mental health capacity to give consent for admission.

60% had been assessed in the first 24 hours of their section.

60% were converted to section 2,3 of the Mental Health Act.

25% stayed as informal patients and 7% were discharged.

Female patients were more, which was against expectation. Older people were more which was again against expectation. Majority of patients were a risk to themselves and only 13% were a risk to other people. Nearly two third were assessed within 24hrs from the section which was something we commend our services on. 60% needed to be transferred to different sections which indicates that 40% of the sample could have been managed more efficiently, in a way which had not warranted the use of section 5(2).