



June 27, 2022

Request for Oregon State Hospital Expedited Consultation/Admission PATIENTS ON THE OSH ADMISSION LIST UNDER FORENSIC COMMITMENTS

Purpose of this document:

This document sets forth protocols and processes for referral for expedited consultation and possible early admission of individuals under a forensic commitment awaiting admission to Oregon State Hospital from local jails. OSH and OHA are working in partnership with stakeholders to increase timely access to OSH. To achieve equitable efficiencies and maximum timeliness for all admissions, only in very limited circumstances would an expedited admission be approved.

Role of OSH for forensic patients:

OSH has a role in caring for individuals sent via courts who are either in need of restoration to competence to stand trial, are found Guilty Except for Insanity, or are committed under an Extremely Dangerous Persons civil commitment and are found to warrant care and treatment at OSH. These legal categories (A/A, GEI and EDP) are referred to as “forensic” as they involve criminal court processes. OSH treatment providers have substantial expertise in the treatment of people with severe and persistent mental illness and can provide helpful informal consultation by telephone regarding the management of individuals waiting for OSH admission.

Protocol:

Individuals eligible to request expedited clinical or systems consultation/admission: Courts, jail personnel, the individual’s assigned defense attorney(s), case prosecutor(s), or anyone who, in their professional capacity, has concerns about the mental health condition of individuals in the categories listed below.



Individuals eligible for expedited consultation/admission: An individual being held in custody but ordered by a Court to OSH and placed on the OSH admission list, who are forensically committed pursuant to any of the following statutes:

- ORS 161.370: order for restoration of fitness to proceed;
- ORS 161.365: order for admission for up to 30 days' observation as initiated by OSH;
- ORS 161.327: An individual found guilty except for insanity (GEI); or
- ORS 426.701: An individual judicially committed as an extremely dangerous person with mental illness.

Qualifying Criteria for Expedited Admission: Individuals may be considered for expedited consultation/admission if they are currently at serious risk of harm to self, related to:

- Mental health symptoms compromising the immediate health and safety of the individual; and/or
- Active suicidal intent, actions such as suicide attempts, or serious self-injury*; and/or
- Inability to meet basic needs that puts the individual's immediate health and safety at risk**

**Serious injury includes injury requiring immediate medical attention OR averted injury which would have required immediate medical intervention if not for the intervention of jail staff. An individual who has received interventions such as limiting access to lethal means, use of suicide-resistant clothing, or other staff actions used to secure the immediate safety of the individual may still be referred for expedited consultation/admission.*

***Risk to health and safety related to mental illness could include not eating or drinking for a period of time that could lead to medical consequences or placing oneself at risk of victimization due to apparent mental illness*

Disqualifying Criteria for Expedited Admission: An individual who meets the eligibility criteria above but who has *an active medical condition that requires stabilization at a primary medical center*. Once medical stabilization has occurred, if the individual still meets criteria, a request for consultation is encouraged. Consultation is also available while the individual is being stabilized to ensure timely transport and admission.

Process:

Rapid Response Consultation: a telephone consultation is encouraged when there is an immediate health and safety risk which meets the above criteria AND may require OSH admission within 24-48 hours, possibly following emergency stabilization at a primary medical center.

1. OSH response occurs within one (1) business day

2. Telephone consultation only, though OSH may contact the jail to provide additional documentation, as described below
3. **Contact the OSH Admissions Department at 503-945-9265 (phone) or OSH.Admissions@odhsoha.oregon.gov (email)**
4. If further assessment of the individual is needed before a determination can be made, OSH will work with jail personnel or, if appropriate, with OHA (who will engage community mental health providers) to conduct such an assessment.

Expedited Consultation: a consultation and/or referral for expedited admission is encouraged when there is a health and safety risk which meets the above criteria but is not likely to require OSH admission within 24-48 hours.

1. OSH response occurs within two (2) business days
2. If a telephone consult is preferred, contact the OSH Admissions Department as above. OSH may also contact the jail to provide additional documentation, as described below.
3. Written referrals must be sent to the OSH Admissions Department (contact information below) and include the following:
 - a. a written explanation of
 - the clinical concerns that require more immediate attention; and
 - a description of interventions and supports that have already been implemented or attempted; and
 - b. additional documentation provided by the jail as described below.

Additional documentation (which may be requested from the jail by the OSH Admissions Department to supplement a consultation):

- Medical and Psychiatric Records from the jail facility; and
- Medication administration records for the last month; and
- Logs for the duration of the inmate's current stay at the jail facility detailing restraint/seclusion, special observation, administrative segregation, or disciplinary segregation; and
- If available, the status of a court order for administration of involuntary medications

Requests for consultation/expedited admission will be reviewed by the Chief Medical Officer or designee during business hours (0800-1700) Monday through Friday. The reviewer may contact the submitting jail or referral source to arrange consult by phone or video if additional information is needed.

Within 24 hours of receiving all necessary information, the CMO or designee will communicate back to the referring party related to consultation/admission considerations.

A request for expedited admission is not meant to replace services that are currently required within jail facilities or emergency medical care. In a life-threatening emergency, the individual should be treated at the local site and taken for emergency medical care as needed.

Admissions Department contact information:

Phone: 503-945-9265

FAX: 503-945-9839

Email: OSH.Admissions@odhsoha.oregon.gov

Hours of operation:

Monday through Friday

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM