



Ohio Revised Code

Section 5122.01 Hospitalization of mentally ill definitions.

Effective: September 30, 2025

Legislation: House Bill 96 - 136th General Assembly

As used in this chapter and Chapter 5119. of the Revised Code:

(A) "Mental illness" means a substantial disorder of thought, mood, perception, orientation, or memory that grossly impairs judgment, behavior, capacity to recognize reality, or ability to meet the ordinary demands of life.

(B) "Person with a mental illness subject to court order" means a person with a mental illness who, because of the person's illness:

(1) Represents a substantial risk of physical harm to self as manifested by evidence of threats of, or attempts at, suicide or serious self-inflicted bodily harm;

(2) Represents a substantial risk of physical harm to others as manifested by evidence of recent homicidal or other violent behavior, evidence of recent threats that place another in reasonable fear of violent behavior and serious physical harm, or other evidence of present dangerousness;

(3) Represents a substantial and immediate risk of serious physical impairment or injury to self as manifested by evidence that the person is unable to provide for and is not providing for the person's basic physical needs because of the person's mental illness and that appropriate provision for those needs cannot be made immediately available in the community;

(4) Would benefit from treatment for the person's mental illness and is in need of such treatment as manifested by evidence of behavior that creates a grave and imminent risk to substantial rights of others or the person;

(5)(a) Would benefit from treatment as manifested by evidence of behavior that indicates all of the following:

(i) The person is unlikely to survive safely in the community without supervision, based on a clinical determination.

(ii) The person has a history of lack of compliance with treatment for mental illness and one of the following applies:

(I) At least twice within the thirty-six months prior to the filing of an affidavit seeking court-ordered treatment of the person under section 5122.111 of the Revised Code, the lack of



compliance has been a significant factor in necessitating hospitalization in a hospital or receipt of services in a forensic or other mental health unit of a correctional facility, provided that the thirty-six-month period shall be extended by the length of any hospitalization or incarceration of the person that occurred within the thirty-six-month period.

(II) Within the forty-eight months prior to the filing of an affidavit seeking court-ordered treatment of the person under section 5122.111 of the Revised Code, the lack of compliance resulted in one or more acts of serious violent behavior toward self or others or threats of, or attempts at, serious physical harm to self or others, provided that the forty-eight-month period shall be extended by the length of any hospitalization or incarceration of the person that occurred within the forty-eight-month period.

(iii) The person, as a result of the person's mental illness, is unlikely to voluntarily participate in necessary treatment.

(iv) In view of the person's treatment history and current behavior, the person is in need of treatment in order to prevent a relapse or deterioration that would be likely to result in substantial risk of serious harm to the person or others.

(b) An individual who meets only the criteria described in division (B)(5)(a) of this section is not subject to hospitalization.

(C)(1) "Patient" means, subject to division (C)(2) of this section, a person who is admitted either voluntarily or involuntarily to a hospital or other place under section 2945.39, 2945.40, 2945.401, or 2945.402 of the Revised Code subsequent to a finding of not guilty by reason of insanity or incompetence to stand trial or under this chapter, who is under observation or receiving treatment in such place.

(2) "Patient" does not include a person admitted to a hospital or other place under section 2945.39, 2945.40, 2945.401, or 2945.402 of the Revised Code to the extent that the reference in this chapter to patient, or the context in which the reference occurs, is in conflict with any provision of sections 2945.37 to 2945.402 of the Revised Code.

(D) "Licensed physician" means a person licensed under the laws of this state to practice medicine or a medical officer of the government of the United States while in this state in the performance of the person's official duties.

(E) "Psychiatrist" means a licensed physician who has satisfactorily completed a residency training program in psychiatry, as approved by the residency review committee of the American medical association, the committee on post-graduate education of the American osteopathic association, or the American osteopathic board of neurology and psychiatry, or who on July 1, 1989, has been recognized as a psychiatrist by the Ohio state medical



association or the Ohio osteopathic association on the basis of formal training and five or more years of medical practice limited to psychiatry.

(F) "Hospital" means a hospital or inpatient unit licensed by the department of behavioral health under section 5119.33 of the Revised Code, and any institution, hospital, or other place established, controlled, or supervised by the department under Chapter 5119. of the Revised Code.

(G) "Public hospital" means a facility that is tax-supported and under the jurisdiction of the department of behavioral health.

(H) "Community mental health services provider" means an agency, association, corporation, individual, or program that provides community mental health services that are certified by the director of behavioral health under section 5119.36 of the Revised Code.

(I) "Licensed clinical psychologist" means a person who holds a current, valid psychologist license issued under section 4732.12 of the Revised Code, and in addition, meets the educational requirements set forth in division (B) of section 4732.10 of the Revised Code and has a minimum of two years' full-time professional experience, or the equivalent as determined by rule of the state board of psychology, at least one year of which shall be a predoctoral internship, in clinical psychological work in a public or private hospital or clinic or in private practice, diagnosing and treating problems of mental illness or intellectual disability under the supervision of a psychologist who is licensed or who holds a diploma issued by the American board of professional psychology, or whose qualifications are substantially similar to those required for licensure by the state board of psychology when the supervision has occurred prior to enactment of laws governing the practice of psychology.

(J) "Health officer" means any public health physician; public health nurse; or other person authorized or designated by a city or general health district or a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services to perform the duties of a health officer under this chapter.

(K) "Chief clinical officer" means the medical director of a hospital, community mental health services provider, or board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services, or, if there is no medical director, the licensed physician responsible for the treatment provided by a hospital or community mental health services provider. The chief clinical officer may delegate to the attending physician responsible for a patient's care the duties imposed on the chief clinical officer by this chapter. In the case of a community mental health services provider, the chief clinical officer shall be designated by the governing body of the services provider and shall be a licensed physician or licensed clinical psychologist who supervises diagnostic and treatment services. A licensed physician or licensed clinical psychologist designated by the



chief clinical officer may perform the duties and accept the responsibilities of the chief clinical officer in the chief clinical officer's absence.

(L) "Working day" or "court day" means Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, except when such day is a holiday.

(M) "Indigent" means unable without deprivation of satisfaction of basic needs to provide for the payment of an attorney and other necessary expenses of legal representation, including expert testimony.

(N) "Respondent" means the person whose detention, commitment, hospitalization, continued hospitalization or commitment, or discharge is being sought in any proceeding under this chapter.

(O) "Ohio protection and advocacy system" has the same meaning as in section 5123.60 of the Revised Code.

(P) "Independent expert evaluation" means an evaluation conducted by a licensed clinical psychologist, psychiatrist, or licensed physician who has been selected by the respondent or the respondent's counsel and who consents to conducting the evaluation.

(Q) "Court" means the probate division of the court of common pleas.

(R) "Expunge" means:

(1) The removal and destruction of court files and records, originals and copies, and the deletion of all index references;

(2) The reporting to the person of the nature and extent of any information about the person transmitted to any other person by the court;

(3) Otherwise insuring that any examination of court files and records in question shall show no record whatever with respect to the person;

(4) That all rights and privileges are restored, and that the person, the court, and any other person may properly reply that no such record exists, as to any matter expunged.

(S) "Residence" means a person's physical presence in a county with intent to remain there, except that:

(1) If a person is receiving a mental health service at a facility that includes nighttime sleeping accommodations, residence means that county in which the person maintained the person's primary place of residence at the time the person entered the facility;



(2) If a person is committed pursuant to section 2945.38, 2945.39, 2945.40, 2945.401, or 2945.402 of the Revised Code, residence means the county where the criminal charges were filed.

When the residence of a person is disputed, the matter of residence shall be referred to the department of behavioral health for investigation and determination. Residence shall not be a basis for a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services to deny services to any person present in the board's service district, and the board shall provide services for a person whose residence is in dispute while residence is being determined and for a person in an emergency situation.

(T) "Admission" to a hospital or other place means that a patient is accepted for and stays at least one night at the hospital or other place.

(U) "Prosecutor" means the prosecuting attorney, village solicitor, city director of law, or similar chief legal officer who prosecuted a criminal case in which a person was found not guilty by reason of insanity, who would have had the authority to prosecute a criminal case against a person if the person had not been found incompetent to stand trial, or who prosecuted a case in which a person was found guilty.

(V)(1) "Treatment plan" means a written statement of reasonable objectives and goals for an individual established by the treatment team, with specific criteria to evaluate progress towards achieving those objectives.

(2) The active participation of the patient in establishing the objectives and goals shall be documented. The treatment plan shall be based on patient needs and include services to be provided to the patient while the patient is hospitalized, after the patient is discharged, or in an outpatient setting. The treatment plan shall address services to be provided. In the establishment of the treatment plan, consideration should be given to the availability of services, which may include but are not limited to all of the following:

- (a) Community psychiatric supportive treatment;
- (b) Assertive community treatment;
- (c) Medications;
- (d) Individual or group therapy;
- (e) Peer support services;
- (f) Financial services;
- (g) Housing or supervised living services;
- (h) Alcohol or substance abuse treatment;



(i) Any other services prescribed to treat the patient's mental illness and to either assist the patient in living and functioning in the community or to help prevent a relapse or a deterioration of the patient's current condition.

(3) If the person subject to the treatment plan has executed an advance directive for mental health treatment, the treatment team shall consider any directions included in such advance directive in developing the treatment plan.

(W) "Community control sanction" has the same meaning as in section 2929.01 of the Revised Code.

(X) "Post-release control sanction" has the same meaning as in section 2967.01 of the Revised Code.

(Y) "Local correctional facility" has the same meaning as in section 2903.13 of the Revised Code.

(Z) "Clinical nurse specialist" and "certified nurse practitioner" have the same meanings as in section 4723.01 of the Revised Code.
