

Sent: 23/07/2008 12:35 PM  
To: <mhactreview@dhs.vic.gov.au>  
Subject: MENTAL HEALTH ACT REVIEW.

To whom it may concern....

My name is Amanda Haslam, I am a shift leader working at the adult psychiatry inpatient unit. I am writing regarding the pending review of the mental health act.

I believe there needs to be an amendment made to the definition of "Registered Nurse" within the act.

On an inpatient unit some nursing staff are Division 2 registered nurses, these nurses should be able to do ECT recovery observations and seclusion 15 minute patient checks, the current definition of registered nurses excludes this group of nurses from doing so.

I believe that Division 2 nurses gain the appropriate training and skills required to perform these tasks as part of their basic training. In addition within Southern Health all nursing staff members undertake yearly basic life support training and assessment, and are expected to be able to perform basic life support in an emergency.

I hope this can be taken into consideration during the review.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Haslam.