

WAC 246-341-1152 Mental health inpatient services—Triage—Involuntary. An agency that elects to provide triage involuntary services must meet all of the following requirements:

(1) The agency must have a memo of understanding developed in consultation with local law enforcement agencies, which details the population that the facility has capacity to serve. The memo of understanding must include, at a minimum, a description of the facility's:

(a) Capacity to serve individuals with any medication, medical, or accommodation needs;

(b) Capacity to serve individuals with behavioral management needs;

(c) Ability to provide either seclusion, or restraint, or both, to individuals;

(d) Notification procedures for discharge of individuals; and

(e) Procedures for notifying the appropriate law enforcement agency of an individual's release, transfer, or hold for up to twelve hours to allow the peace officer to reclaim the individual.

(2) Agencies must have written procedures to ensure all of the following for individuals brought to a triage involuntary placement facility by a peace officer:

(a) An individual detained by the designated crisis responder (DCR) under chapter 71.05 RCW with a confirmed admission date to an evaluation and treatment facility, may remain at the triage facility until admitted to the evaluation and treatment facility.

(i) The individual may not be detained to the triage facility; and

(ii) An individual who agrees to a voluntary stay must provide a signature that documents the agreement.

(b) The individual is examined by a mental health professional (MHP) within three hours of the individual's arrival at the facility, and the examination includes an assessment to determine if a DCR evaluation is also required.

(c) If it is determined a DCR evaluation is required, the DCR must evaluate the individual within twelve hours of arrival. The DCR determines whether the individual:

(i) Meets detention criteria under chapter 71.05 RCW; or

(ii) Agrees to accept voluntary admission by providing their signature agreeing to voluntary treatment.

(3) Agencies must ensure the clinical record includes all of the following for individuals involuntarily admitted to a triage involuntary placement facility based on a peace officer-initiated twelve-hour hold:

(a) The date and time the individual arrived at the facility and the date and time the examination by the mental health professional (MHP) occurred. The examination must occur within three hours of the individual's arrival to the facility.

(b) The peace officer's:

(i) Determination for cause to have the individual transported to the facility;

(ii) Request to be notified if the individual leaves the facility and how the peace officer is to be contacted, or documentation of other person(s) permitted to be contacted, such as the shift supervisor of the law enforcement agency or dispatcher; and

(iii) Request that the individual be held for the duration of the twelve hours to allow the peace officer sufficient time to return and

make a determination as to whether or not to take the individual into custody.

(c) A copy of the evaluation if the individual is determined by a DCR to meet detention criteria under chapter 71.05 RCW.

[Statutory Authority: 2018 c 201 and 2018 c 291. WSR 19-09-062, § 246-341-1152, filed 4/16/19, effective 5/17/19.]