



**Health Care Agency
Behavioral Health Services
Policies and Procedures**

Section Name: Care and Treatment
Sub Section: Practice Guidelines
Section Number: 01.02.01
Policy Status: New Revised

Chief of Operations
Behavioral Health Services

SIGNATURE

DATE APPROVED

SUBJECT:

Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) for Individuals in the Mental Health Plan

PURPOSE:

To ensure accessibility for consumers within Orange County's Mental Health Plan (MHP) to electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and to ensure all ECT is performed in compliance with State regulations and adheres to accepted clinical practice.

POLICY:

To ensure access to prescribed ECT through coordination of access for behavioral health and physical health services through managed care programs.

SCOPE:

This procedure applies to voluntary/involuntary and inpatient/outpatient electroconvulsive therapy. The request, assessment and administration of ECT will be consistent with the guidelines of the American Psychiatric Association (APA).

REFERENCES:

Welfare and Institution Code, Division 5, Part I, Section 5326

Practice of Electroconvulsive Therapy - Task Force report of the APA, 1990

Manual of Psychiatric Quality Assurance 1992

Health Care Agency Behavioral Health Prescribing Guidelines

PROCEDURE:

- I. There are 5 possible procedures for requesting ECT:
 - A. Voluntary ECT from outpatient services.
 - B. Voluntary ECT from inpatient facilities/programs.

- C. Involuntary ECT from outpatient services.
 - D. Involuntary ECT from inpatient facilities/programs.
 - E. Additional procedures for children.
- II. Refer to the Policy and Procedure: Involvement of County Mental Health Services Electroconvulsive Treatment (ECT) 200.01 located in the Adult Mental Health Services Policy and Procedure Manual under section 200 and review the prescribing guidelines for Electroconvulsive Treatment in section 4.10 of the Prescribing Guideline Manual located on the County of Orange Intranet BHS Resource Center Homepage.