

ECT Flowchart

ECT can only be given **in hospital to voluntary or involuntary patients under the Mental Health Act, 2007:**

For Voluntary Patients:

Ask the question:
Can the patient consent to the ECT treatment? (mental health facility needs to decide)

If yes:
Mental Health Facility is satisfied patient can consent s93(1) & (2)

Treatment proceeds (no MHRT hearing)

If no or Mental Health facility is uncertain if patient can consent:
Apply to the Tribunal for a Consent Inquiry s93 (3)

Tribunal decides if patient is capable of consenting s96(1)

If yes:
Treatment proceeds

If no: Mental Health facility cannot administer ECT while the patient is voluntary

For Involuntary Patients or patients under 16 years of age:

ALL applications for ECT for Involuntary patients and patients under 16 years of age must come to the Tribunal for an Administration Inquiry s94

The Tribunal decides if:
Patient **can and has** consented s94(1)

If yes:
Treatment proceeds

The Tribunal decides if:
Patient is incapable of consenting **OR** is capable but refuses consent **or neither consents or refuses**
AND
ECT is reasonable and proper and necessary or desirable s96(3(b)) & 96 (3A)

If yes:
Treatment proceeds

If no:
Treatment **CANNOT** proceed

Paperwork required for ECT:

- Certificates of 2 doctors at least one of whom is a psychiatrist s94(3). (If the patient is under 16 the psychiatrist must have expertise in the treatment of children or adolescents s94(2A))
- Report on why ECT is reasonable and proper & necessary or desirable for patient
- Copy of written consent (if applicable)
- Evidence of notification to designated carer(s) and principal care provider