



# BC Mental Health Act Quick Guide

## FORM 5

### Consent for Treatment



Complete prior to involuntary psychiatric treatment. Failure to do so could lead to legal liability.

Cannot be used for medical/surgical (non-psychiatric) treatment. Use the *Health Care (Consent) and Care Facility (Admission) Act*.

## 1. Complete Description of Treatment

## Physician Only

**Description of treatment MUST:**

- Include all **psychiatric** treatments the patient can expect to undergo (including **observation, sedation, seclusion/restraint**).
- Have **all medications** listed by class or indication.
- Be patient specific, in plain language and written legibly.
- Follow trauma-informed principles.

Description of Treatment is completed by a **physician** who is fully licensed to practice in BC.

The physician must have personally examined the patient.



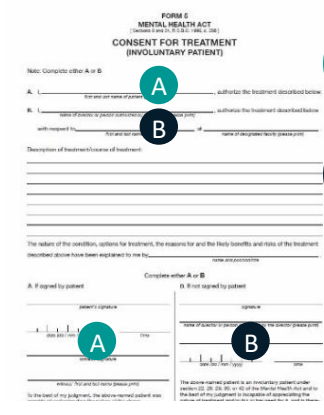
- A new Form 5 must be completed **every time** there is a **significant change in treatment**: e.g. ECT or Clozapine initiation, new class of medications, seclusion/restraint, transfers to a new Designated Facility.
- A new Form 5 is **not** required for transfers between units in the same facility.

**CST Corner Designated Facilities:**  
Complete [electronic Form 5](#) in "PDF Forms" page and ensure one of your area's Director/Delegate co-signs the form.



## 2. Co-sign Section A or Section B

## Section A: Patient or Section B: Director/Delegate



**A** If the patient is willing to sign Form 5, Section A is completed.

**B** If the patient is unable or declines to sign Form 5, Section B is completed by the Director/Delegate.

Director/Delegate reviews treatment plan and ensures it only includes psychiatric treatment before co-signing.

**Director/Delegate requirement:** Full first and last name.

**Ideally, another physician signs Part B.** However, if an eligible physician is not available to sign, the following clinicians may sign in order of preference:

**Specialized Psychiatric Nurse Clinician, Patient Care (or Services) Manager, Care Management Leader, Unit Nurse-in-Charge.**

A title may be abbreviated if it is a regulated health profession: E.g. Nurse: RPN, RN; Physician: Dr.

## Learn More

- [Decision Support Tool – Involuntary Admissions under MH Act \(from SHOP\)](#)
- [MH Act Authorization Matrix](#)
- [BC MH Act Learning Hub Course](#)
- [Provincial Standards for Operators and Directors of Designated Facilities](#)
- [Guide to the MH Act](#)

**Reminder: Forms 13, 15, 16** must be completed as soon as possible, within 24 hours of involuntary admission.

FORM 5  
MENTAL HEALTH ACT  
[ Sections 8 and 31, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 288 ]  
**CONSENT FOR TREATMENT  
(INVOLUNTARY PATIENT)**

**SCENARIO A:**  
Patient agrees to sign  
Form 5 – Completion of  
Section A

Do not place patient label over name

Note: Complete either **A** or **B**

**A.** I, Jamie Smith, authorize the treatment described below.  
*first and last name of patient (please print)*

**B.** I, \_\_\_\_\_, authorize the treatment described below  
*name of director or person authorized by the director (please print)*  
with respect to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
*first and last name of patient name of designated facility (please print)*

Description of treatment/course of treatment:

**Diagnosis: Mood Disorder**

**Mood stabilizers, Antipsychotics, Benzodiazepines**

**Bloodwork, urine drug screen, to rule out medical etiology of psychiatric symptoms and monitor serum lithium levels**

**Use of seclusion and/or restraint as a last resort for severe agitation**

Treating Physician **MUST** have conversation with patient about benefits and risks of treatment.

The nature of the condition, options for treatment, the reasons for and the likely benefits and risks of the treatment described above have been explained to me by Dr. John Wilson, M.D.  
*name and position/title* ★

Treating Physician **MUST** include:  
✓ Full name or first initial and last name  
✓ Designation

**The description of treatment must be:**  
✓ Patient specific and meaningful  
✓ In plain language  
✓ Include all psychiatric treatments the patient can expect to undergo, such as:  
- Observation  
- Restraints or sedation as a last resort for severe agitation with indication specific to patient  
✓ Follow trauma-informed principles  
✓ Any medications included listed by class or indication, such as:  
- Benzodiazepines as required  
- Antipsychotics as required  
- Anxiolytics/Sedatives/Hypnotics as required  
- Bzotropine as required  
✓ Written legibly (e.g. written in print)

**A.** If signed by patient  
Jamie Smith  
*patient's signature*

**B.** If not signed by patient  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*name of director*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*date*

0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1      09:40  
*date (dd / mm / yyyy) time*

Sam Taylor  
*witness' signature*  
**Sam Taylor**  
*witness' first and last name (please print)*

E.g. Bedside nurse

To the best of my judgment, the above-named patient was capable of understanding the nature of the above authorization at the time it was signed.

The above-named patient is an involuntary patient under section 22, 28, 29, 30, or 42 of the *Mental Health Act* and to the best of my judgment is incapable of appreciating the nature of treatment and/or his or her need for it, and is therefore incapable of giving consent.

Dr. Wilson \_\_\_\_\_, M.D.  
*signature of physician signature of physician*

Treating Physician signature **MUST** be included

FORM 5  
MENTAL HEALTH ACT  
[ Sections 8 and 31, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 288 ]

**SCENARIO B:**  
Patient declines or is  
unable to sign Form 5 –  
Completion of Section B

**CONSENT FOR TREATMENT  
(INVOLUNTARY PATIENT)**

Do not place patient  
label over name

Note: Complete either **A** or **B**

Director/Delegate name **MUST** include:  
✓ Full first and last name  
✓ Not the treating physician\*

Director/Delegate in order of preference:  
Another Physician, Psychiatric Triage Nurse, Patient  
Care (or Services) Manager, Care Management  
Leader, Unit Nurse-in-Charge

**A.** I, \_\_\_\_\_, authorize the treatment described below.  
first and last name of patient (please print)

**B.** I, **Rory Johnson**, authorize the treatment described below.  
name of director or person authorized by the director (please print)

with respect to **Jamie Smith** at **VGH**  
first and last name of patient name of designated facility (please print)

Commonly used abbreviations of  
hospital names are acceptable

Description of treatment/course of treatment:

**Diagnosis: Mood Disorder**

**Mood stabilizers, Antipsychotics, Benzodiazepines**

**Bloodwork, urine drug screen, to rule out medical etiology of psychiatric symptoms and monitor serum  
lithium levels**

**Use of seclusion and/or restraint as a last resort for severe agitation**

Treating Physician **MUST** have  
conversation with patient about benefits  
and risks of treatment.

The nature of the condition, options for treatment, the reasons for and the likely benefits and risks of the treatment  
described above have been explained to me by **Dr. John Wilson, M.D.**  
name and position/title

The description of treatment must be:  
✓ Patient specific and meaningful  
✓ In plain language  
✓ Include all psychiatric treatments the patient can expect to undergo, such as:  
- Observation  
- Restraints or seclusion as a last resort for severe agitation with indication specific to patient  
✓ Follow trauma-informed principles  
✓ Any medications included listed by class or indication, such as:  
- Benzodiazepines as required  
- Antipsychotics as required  
- Anxiolytics/Sedatives/Hypnotics as required  
- Benzotropine as required  
✓ Written legibly (e.g. written in print)  
witness' first and last name (please print)

I am either **A** or **B**

**B.** If not signed by patient

Treating Physician **MUST** include:  
✓ Full name or first initial and last name  
✓ Designation

**Rory Johnson**  
signature

Director/Delegate, **NOT**  
treating physician. **MUST**  
be identical to field above

**Rory Johnson**  
name of director or person authorized by the director (please print)

**Unit Nurse-in-Charge**  
position/title

**0 1 0 3 2 0 2 1** **09:40**  
date (dd / mm / yyyy) time

To the best of my judgment, the above-named patient was  
capable of understanding the nature of the above  
authorization at the time it was signed.

The above-named patient is an involuntary patient under  
section 22, 28, 29, 30, or 42 of the *Mental Health Act* and to  
the best of my judgment is incapable of appreciating the  
nature of treatment and/or his or her need for it, and is there-  
fore incapable of giving consent.

\_\_\_\_\_  
signature of physician **Dr. Wilson**, M.D.  
signature of physician

Treating Physician signature **MUST**  
be included