

## Regional Access to Youth Beds in Ward 9C Acute Admissions (Otago)

Southern DHB is a member of the South Island Alliance. The Alliance enables the regions five DHBs to work collaboratively to develop more innovative and efficient health services than could be achieved independently. Ward 9C has two South Island regional youth inpatient beds. Ward 9C is an acute adult inpatient service located at Wakari Hospital, Dunedin.

A phone/fax referral has been received from a Mental Health professional within a Mental Health Service of a South Island DHB.  
**Note:** All referrals from other districts need to be arranged between the hours of 0900 and 1630 Monday to Friday.

The referral is acknowledged by Ward 9C  
**Free phone: 0800 44 33 66 or 03 476 9930**  
**External fax: 03 476 9957**

The referral is actioned by the CNM of Ward 9C. The referral is discussed with the appropriate consultant psychiatrist and he/she contacts the referrer.  
**Note: Ward 9C do not have youth psychiatrists so an adult consultant psychiatrist will be the initial contact with the referring service.**  
**A youth consultant psychiatrist is available to consult and to visit the ward as required.**

The admitting consultant psychiatrist will consider the urgency of the referral. The availability of a bed (if a bed is not available immediately the name of the youth will be put on the wait list as a priority).

If the referral meets the criteria for an acute admission, as set out below:

- The Ward 9C consultant psychiatrist will then discuss the referral with the Ward 9C Team.
- The referral will be accepted for admission by Ward 9C if:
- **The youth is 16 or 17 years of age/or the person is 18 and still attending school,**
- **and** the youth has a confirmed severe psychiatric disorder as defined in the DSMV **or** admission is for the purpose of diagnostic clarification in complex cases,
- **and** the youth is unable to be managed in the community,
- **and** the youth lives in the South Island and has a discharge address,
- **and** the youth is willing to engage in treatment **or** the youth meets the criteria for the MHA (1992).

### On confirmation of the referral:

- A date and time will be confirmed to receive the youth on to Ward 9C.
- The referrer will make arrangements for safe transport to the ward and provide escort/s.
- Any further information required by the referrer will be sent to them by Ward 9C staff.
- Any further information required by Ward 9C will be sent by the referrer.