

Edinburgh Rapid Response Team Older People's Mental Health

Information for Patients and Carers

About the Rapid Response Team

The Rapid Response Team (RRT) is an Edinburgh wide multi-professional team. The service has three main objectives:

- To prevent admission to psychiatric hospital for older people with mental ill health and for people living with young onset dementia
- The RRT will also facilitate early discharge from hospital by providing intensive support at home
- All admissions to the Older People's Mental Health wards in Edinburgh will be discussed with the RRT who will consider if providing intensive support in your own home is more appropriate.

The team consists of: Consultant Psychiatrist, Mental Health Nurses and Support Workers. There will be close links with Occupational Therapists and Social Workers.

The RRT will provide a 7 day service from 8am – 6pm. RRT will close at 4pm on Christmas Day.

Aims of the Rapid Response Team

- Respond to emergency referrals to Edinburgh's Older People's Mental Health (OPMH). This means people who need to be seen within 24 hours
- Provide intensive support for older people who are mentally unwell where there is a risk of admission to hospital
- Support early discharge from hospital by providing short term support until the person is well enough to be discharged to mainstream services
- Work closely with the Older People's Mental Health wards to identify and support patients suitable for early discharge
- Assist Community Mental Health Team (CMHT) in supporting a person who is becoming more unwell by providing visits from mental health staff up to three times a day
- Provide carers' support when the patient is at risk of admission.


How can I be referred?

Referrals to the RRT are for people who need a rapid response to a mental health crisis.

Referrals to RRT should be made via your GP, Community Mental Health Nurse, Mental Health Officer or Consultant Psychiatrist. Unfortunately we are unable to accept self-referrals.

How to contact the Rapid Response Team

RRT provide a 7 day service from 8am – 6pm.

 Telephone: **0131 537 6398**

(There is an answer machine. Any messages will be responded to as soon as possible between 8am to 6pm)

During these hours mental health nurses can provide support and advice to patients, family and carers of people who the RRT are involved with.

If you feel that you require advice and support Out of Hours you can contact the following:

 Mental Health and Assessment Service (MHAS): **0131 537 6000**

 Breathing Space: **0800 83 85 87**

 NHS 24: **111**

 Crisis Centre: **0808 801 0414**

Interpretation and Translation

Your GP will inform us of any interpreting requirements that you have before we visit you and we will provide an appropriate interpreter. If you are an existing in patient, staff will arrange interpreting support for you in advance of our visit. This leaflet may be made available in a larger print, Braille or your community language.