



Mental Health Units (Use of Force) Act 2018

2018 CHAPTER 27

Key definitions

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- (1) This section applies for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) “Mental disorder” has the same meaning as in the Mental Health Act 1983.
- (3) “Mental health unit” means—
 - (a) a health service hospital, or part of a health service hospital, in England, the purpose of which is to provide treatment to in-patients for mental disorder, or
 - (b) an independent hospital, or part of an independent hospital, in England—
 - (i) the purpose of which is to provide treatment to in-patients for mental disorder, and
 - (ii) where at least some of that treatment is provided, or is intended to be provided, for the purposes of the NHS.
- (4) In subsection (3)(b)(ii) the reference to treatment provided for the purposes of the NHS is to be read as a service provided for those purposes in accordance with the National Health Service Act 2006.
- (5) “Patient” means a person who is in a mental health unit for the purpose of treatment for mental disorder or assessment.
- (6) References to “use of force” are to—
 - (a) the use of physical, mechanical or chemical restraint on a patient, or
 - (b) the isolation of a patient.
- (7) In subsection (6)—

“physical restraint” means the use of physical contact which is intended to prevent, restrict or subdue movement of any part of the patient’s body;

“mechanical restraint” means the use of a device which—

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (a) is intended to prevent, restrict or subdue movement of any part of the patient's body, and
- (b) is for the primary purpose of behavioural control;
 - “chemical restraint” means the use of medication which is intended to prevent, restrict or subdue movement of any part of the patient's body;
 - “isolation” means any seclusion or segregation that is imposed on a patient.