

**CHAPTER 31**

**SCREENING AND SCREENING OUTREACH PROGRAM**

**Authority**

N.J.S.A. 30:4-27.1 et seq., specifically 30:4-27.5.

**Source and Effective Date**

R.2010 d.175, effective July 21, 2010.  
See: 41 N.J.R. 4014(a), 42 N.J.R. 1872(a).

**Chapter Expiration Date**

Chapter 31, Screening and Screening Outreach Program, expires on July 21, 2015.

**Chapter Historical Note**

Chapter 31, Screening and Screening Outreach Program, was adopted as R.1989 d.284, effective June 5, 1989. See: 20 N.J.R. 2427(d), 21 N.J.R. 1562(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 31, Screening and Screening Outreach Program, was readopted as R.1994 d.291, effective May 13, 1994. See: 26 N.J.R. 1424(a), 26 N.J.R. 2271(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 31, Screening and Screening Outreach Program, was readopted as R.1999 d.153, effective April 20, 1999. See: 31 N.J.R. 596(a), 31 N.J.R. 1334(a).

Chapter 31, Screening and Screening Outreach Program, was readopted as R.2004 d.373, effective September 9, 2004. See: 36 N.J.R. 1691(a), 36 N.J.R. 4468(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 1(2010), the chapter expiration date was extended from March 8, 2010 until the completion of the review of administrative regulations and rules by the Red Tape Review Group, and until such time as the extended regulation or rule was readopted pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq.

Chapter 31, Screening and Screening Outreach Program, was readopted as R.2010 d.175, effective July 21, 2010. As a part of R.2010 d.175, Subchapter 4, Emergency Service Personnel Requirements, was renamed Affiliated Emergency Service Personnel Requirements; former Subchapter 6, Planning, was recodified to Subchapter 10; former Subchapter 7, Termination of Services, was recodified to Subchapter 6; former Subchapter 8, Police Involvement, was recodified to Subchapter 7; former Subchapter 9, Client's Rights, was recodified to Subchapter 8 and renamed Consumers' Rights; and Subchapter 9, Continued Quality Improvement, Subchapter 11, Waiver, Subchapter 12, Confidentiality of Consumer Records and Appendices A through D were adopted as new rules, effective August 16, 2010. See: Source and Effective Date. See, also, section annotations.

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## SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

**10:31-1.1 Scope**

(a) The Screening and Screening Outreach Program is designed to provide screening and crisis stabilization services, 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, in every geographic area in the State of New Jersey. These services may be provided at a designated screening location or wherever the individual who may be in need of such services is located. The mode of stabilization will depend on the seriousness of the impairment, degree of potential dangerousness and the availability of appropriate services. The locus of treatment will be as close to the individual's home as circumstances permit.

(b) The Screening and Screening Outreach Program shall be established in every geographic area as a new program or as an expansion of an existing emergency service. The Screening and Screening Outreach Program shall be provided by a screening service, designated by the Division.

Amended by R.2010 d.175, effective August 16, 2010.  
See: 41 N.J.R. 4014(a), 42 N.J.R. 1872(a).

In (a), deleted "on and off site" following "provide", substituted "24 hours" for "24-hours" and inserted the second sentence; and in (b), substituted the second occurrence of "Screening Outreach" for "Screening-Outreach" and "service" for "center" following "screening".

**10:31-1.2 Purpose**

(a) The purposes of the Screening and Screening Outreach Program are as follows:

1. To provide clinical assessment and crisis stabilization in the least restrictive, clinically appropriate setting, as close to the individual's home as possible, in a manner that is culturally competent and recovery-oriented and assists the consumer in achieving a self-directed transition to wellness;
2. To provide outreach to individuals who may need involuntary commitment and are unable or unwilling to come to the screening service location, as stipulated in N.J.S.A. 30:4-27.5(d);
3. To provide outreach for the purpose of crisis intervention and stabilization;
4. To assure referral and linkage, which is voluntary in nature to appropriate community mental health and social services;

5. To coordinate access, where appropriate, to the publicly affiliated acute care psychiatric resources serving a designated geographic area, that is, acute partial hospitalization/care, crisis housing or voluntary inpatient services;

6. To screen individuals, so that only those persons who are in need of involuntary commitment, as set forth in N.J.S.A. 30:4-27.2m, are committed;

7. To serve as the admission screener and primary route of access to the short term care facility, county psychiatric hospital, and State psychiatric hospital;

8. To provide training and technical assistance concerning psychiatric emergencies to other social service, law enforcement and mental health providers in the geographic area;

9. To coordinate a system for review and monitoring of the effectiveness and appropriateness of screening and screening outreach service use, including impact upon admissions to State and county psychiatric hospitals; and

10. To provide leadership within the acute care network of services and advocate for services to meet consumers' needs and encourage the system to respond flexibly.

Amended by R.2010 d.175, effective August 16, 2010.

See: 41 N.J.R. 4014(a), 42 N.J.R. 1872(a).

In the introductory paragraph of (a), substituted "Screening Outreach" for "Screening-Outreach"; rewrote (a)1 through (a)4; in (a)5, inserted "hospitalization/" and substituted "housing or" for "house,,"; in (a)6, inserted a comma following "individuals" and "commitment" and substituted "are in need of" for "meet the standard for" and "30:4-27.2m," for "30:3-27.2m"; in (a)8, inserted "law enforcement" and deleted "and" from the end; in (a)9, substituted "and" for a period at the end; and added (a)10.

**10:31-1.3 Definitions**

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Acute care" means community out-patient and in-patient psychiatric services designed to provide stabilization during the acute phase of psychiatric illness.

"Acute care system" means those services either contracted for or identified by the Division of Mental Health Services, in consultation with the appropriate county mental health board, as part of a geographic area's acute care services. They may include, but are not limited to, the screening service, affiliated emergency services, short-term care facility, inpatient psychiatric service, acute partial care/hospitalization, crisis housing, integrated case management services (ICMS), programs of assertive community treatment (PACT), and peer support, self-help and acute family support services.

"Acute partial hospitalization/care" means a day treatment program whose purpose is to promote stabilization and acute symptom reduction through structured individual and group activities and interventions, which are provided throughout the day and early evening.