

225C.14 Preliminary diagnostic evaluation.

1. Except in cases of medical emergency, a person shall be admitted to a state mental health institute as an inpatient only after a preliminary diagnostic evaluation performed through the central point of coordination process* has confirmed that the admission is appropriate to the person's mental health needs, and that no suitable alternative method of providing the needed services in a less restrictive setting or in or nearer to the person's home community is currently available. If provided for through the central point of coordination process,* the evaluation may be performed by a community mental health center or by an alternative diagnostic facility. The policy established by [this section](#) shall be implemented in the manner and to the extent prescribed by [sections 225C.15, 225C.16 and 225C.17](#).

2. As used in [this section](#) and [sections 225C.15, 225C.16 and 225C.17](#), the term "*medical emergency*" means a situation in which a prospective patient is received at a state mental health institute in a condition which, in the opinion of the chief medical officer, or that officer's physician designee, requires the immediate admission of the person notwithstanding the policy stated in [subsection 1](#).

[C79, 81, §225B.4; S81, §225C.13; [81 Acts, ch 78, §15, 20](#)]

[94 Acts, ch 1170, §18](#); [96 Acts, ch 1183, §14](#); [2004 Acts, ch 1090, §33](#)

*Section 331.440, implementing the central point of coordination process, is repealed; corrective legislation is pending