

(b) At the direction of the Commissioner, his authorized representative, or the superintendent of any facility, (or in the case of a patient in a Veterans' Administration Hospital, at the direction of the chief officer of that hospital), any patient not detained pursuant to the provisions of Sections 23, 24 or 27 of this Article, may be released on a conditional basis, if in the judgment of such official:

(1) the patient, if released, would be properly cared for by himself or other responsible persons; and

(2) the patient, if released, would not constitute a danger to himself or to the safety of the person or property of others.

Conditional releases may be on any basis as to duration, treatment or care deemed reasonable by the official approving the release. For the purposes of Section 12(e), a patient released on a conditional basis shall be deemed to be a retained patient.

(c) Any person in a facility who fails or refuses to execute the application provided for in Sections 11(f) and 11(g) of this subtitle, or who has not been recertified pursuant to Section 12(e) shall be released.

(d) All determinations as to release, whether full or conditional, including a summary of the reasons for such determination, shall be made a permanent part of the patient records of each patient.

19. Patient Records.

Each facility which has, as patients, any persons admitted under the provisions of this subtitle, shall make and retain in a separate and secure area of the facility, complete records of each such patient. Such records shall contain copies of all data required by this Article, and such additional information as may be required by the Department. Such records shall be open for inspection by persons designated by the Commissioner and in accordance with the provisions of the Privileged Communications Act, Article 35, Section 19A, but shall be closed to all other persons.

20. Reports of Admission.

Within 10 days after admission to a facility, the Department shall be notified of the admission, whether involuntary or voluntary, formal or informal, of each patient, in such detail as may be required by the Department. Thereafter, at least once every year or more frequently, if requested by the Department; or upon the change of admission status and/or upon release of a patient, a status report as to each such patient shall be submitted to the Department by each facility having any patients admitted pursuant to this section. All such reports shall be in such form and shall supply such detail as the Department may require.

21. Penalties.

(a) Any person who knowingly makes any false application or certificate in connection with the admission or detention of any patient, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, may be imprisoned for a period not to exceed two years, or fined an amount not to exceed \$5,000, or both.