

COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

Angel's Story- Recommendation 6

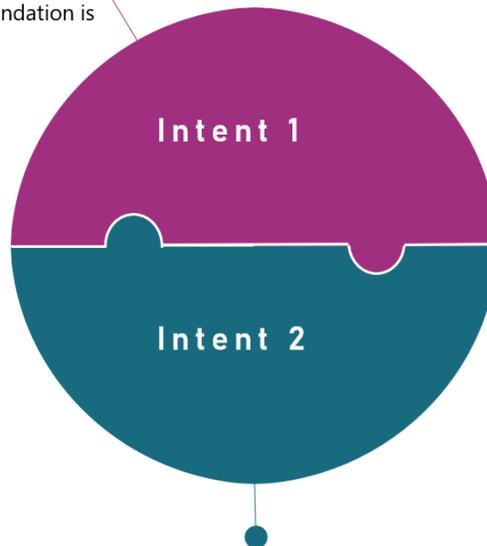
Recommendation Summary: Amend the *Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act*, allow for longer or successive warrants to ensure medically supported withdrawal management services.

Primary Public Body: Manitoba Health and Seniors Care

1. Amend the *Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act*

The *Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act* was reviewed but not amended.

Outstanding Action: This recommendation is under review.



2. Ensure that longer warrants or successive warrants are possible to ensure for medically supported withdrawal management services

MHSC is not prepared to move towards amending the *Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act* at this time. External stakeholders have significant concerns regarding the risk amending this Act poses on infringing upon youths' rights. Further, stakeholders were unable to reach consensus on potential amendments, and have been advised by their legislative amendment unit that this process could take three years and not result in an amendment that would satisfy this recommendation.

Outstanding Action: MACY will need to work with stakeholders to determine next steps to addressing this recommendation.

COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

0.25

Limitedly
Compliant

Actions taken only implement a small part of the recommendation. Evidence of how youth will be medically supported for at least 14 days, while they withdrawal, is required.

Manitoba
Advocate

Recommendation Compliance Summary

This form details the assessment of compliance with recommendations made under Section 27 and Section 31 of *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*. MACY assesses recommendations for compliance once a year but receives updates from the public bodies every six months.

1. Recommendation Information	
Report Name:	In Need of Protection: Angel's Story
Date Released:	12/13/2018
Full Recommendation: (including details)	<p>Recommendation Six:</p> <p>The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends that the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living (now Manitoba Health and Seniors Care), in collaboration with the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba and other stakeholders, amend <i>The Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act</i> so that longer warrants or successive warrants are possible to ensure children and youth get the medically supported withdrawal management services they need based on evidence-informed treatment best practices for addictions (e.g., methamphetamine, alcohol, opioids).</p> <p>DETAILS - Work to this effect should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseen by an existing inter-departmental working group such as the Deputy Ministers of Health and Social Policy and Priorities (DMHSPP) committee/Healthy Child Deputy Ministers' Committee (HCDMC); and • Guided by evidence-informed best practices and knowledge in the areas of supported withdrawal management, addiction and mental health assessments, and accessibility of treatment services for children and youth.
Intent(s) of Recommendation:	<p>The intent of the recommendation is to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1. Amend <i>The Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act</i> so that longer warrants or successive warrants are possible to ensure for medically supported withdrawal management services.</p>
Issue:	Mental Health and Addictions
Public Body	Manitoba Health and Seniors Care
Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body:	July 13, 2021
	June 30, 2020
	December 31, 2019
	June 30, 2019
2. Compliance Determination	
Limitedly Compliant 0.25	Actions taken only implement a small part of the recommendation, requirements are only fulfilled to a limited degree by actions taken, resulting in significant deficiency in implementation.

Self-Assessment	Complete – Alternate Solution
Previous Compliance Determination	Non-Compliant
3. Rationale for Determination <i>(How did you reach this compliance determination)</i>	
<p>Intent 1: Amend <i>The Youth Drug Stabilization Act</i> so that longer warrants or successive warrants are possible to ensure for medically supported withdrawal management services 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manitoba Health and Seniors Care (MHSC) reported completing a review and is recommending that <i>The Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act</i> not be amended at this time. Justifications for this from MHSC include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Non-Consensus among stakeholders: stakeholders were consulted in the spring of 2019 regarding challenges associated with the Youth Addictions Stabilization Unit (YASU) and <i>The Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act</i> and there was no consensus on the feedback received regarding lengthening the seven-day stabilization order. Further, amending legislation would require a consultation process with stakeholders that in the end, could see the stakeholders not recommending such a change. As such, MHSC reported there is a risk that this process would not lead to the amendment recommended by MACY. ○ Risk to infringing on youths’ rights: this amendment could be controversial in that it is proposing to increase the restriction on the rights of the individual through the use of involuntary apprehension and admission to a stabilization/detoxification facility. <i>The Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act</i> recognizes, and attempts to reconcile, the need to balance the rights of the individual with the need to protect the individual. ○ MHSC’s opinion that the recommendation does not address MACY’s initial finding that led to this recommendation: the finding states that, at present, “there are no viable treatment options within Manitoba for sexually exploited children and youth presenting with life-threatening addictions.” In response to this finding, MHSC recommends that the solution be focused instead on expanding and/or enhancing treatment options as opposed to amending the legislation to expand the length of the involuntary stabilization/detoxification period. ○ Concern that the issues are at an organizational level, and therefore do not require a legislative amendment: a discussion between MACY and the MACY-RAP Subcommittee members (Families & Justice) has determined the issues and concerns raised are much broader than just the issue to be addressed through the amendment of this legislation. The development of an alternate solution is challenging because it is unclear as to whether such a solution should be focused solely on “involuntary” admission (as per the legislation) or whether these issues could better be addressed through the policies and procedures of the YASU. • MHSC recommended their proposed alternative solution focus on expanding and/or enhancing treatment options as opposed to amending the legislation to expand the length of the involuntary stabilization/detoxification period. 	

- According to MHSC, MACY's report finding is being addressed by the Government of Manitoba's recent announcement of additional resources to expand addictions treatment programs for sexually exploited youth. The Manitoba government invested \$800,000 in 2019/20 and \$1.5 million in 2020/21 to enable Neecheewam Inc. to expand its Winnipeg facility and improve access to Indigenous-led healing, care, and treatment services to sexually exploited youth.

2020

- While there is indication that an interdepartmental review of this recommendation is in progress, there has been no indication that any action has been completed towards implementing this recommendation, nor has there been any evidence-based documentation submitted.

Analysis Summary: The response provided by MHSC in June 2020 stated that there was 'No Change'. At that time, it was difficult to assess whether the Interdepartmental Review was working towards implementation of this recommendation. The response provided by MHSC in July 2021 indicated no further work had been done towards the implementation of this recommendation. The proposed alternative solution by MHSC does not provide sufficient justification and evidence for meeting the intent of the recommendation. MACY's 'Alternate Solution' compliance category has a 100% completion threshold, which is not appropriate given none of the requirements of the recommendation have been met, even if steps have been taken to propose an alternative. In assessing the action taken in response to this recommendation, a review of *The Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act*, was completed by MHSC. At this time, this recommendation is therefore assessed as limitedly compliant.