

# **[I] Title: Evaluation of the Patient Profile and Service of the Mental Health Review Tribunal in Hong Kong**

## **Summary of Research:**

### **Objectives**

To study the patient attendance profile and discharge rate of the Mental Health Review Tribunal in Hong Kong from 1990-1996.

To find out what are the patient variables that are correlated or predictive of discharge and how likely the Mental Health Review Tribunal is to accept the Case Medical Officer/Medical Social Worker's recommendation.

### **Design**

This is a retrospective population study on all the patient attendance of the Mental Health Review Tribunal in Hong Kong from its inception in 1990 to 1996. Data on demographic characteristics, psychiatric condition, violence, status and decision of the Mental Health Review Tribunal were collected from the Case Medical Officer and Medical Social Worker reports submitted to the Mental Health Review Tribunal by investigator. A data sheet was designed.

### **Setting**

The 3 major psychiatric centres where Mental Health Review Tribunals were held i.e. Siu Lam Psychiatric Hospital, Castle Peak Hospital and Kwai Chung Hospital.

### **Subjects**

There is no sampling because all patient attendance was studied.

### **Result**

The attendance profile represented that of a chronic schizophrenic with long duration of illness and institutionalization. The discharge rate was 11%. Patient factors correlated with and predictive of discharge are marital status, centre of attendance, duration and legal status of the detention. And the Case Medical Officer/Medical Social Worker's recommendation was accepted by the Mental Health Review Tribunal in 92% irrespective whether the patient was discharged or further detained.

### **Conclusion**

When the outcome of the patients discharged, feedback and satisfaction rating of the various parties involved, and the decision making process of the Mental Health Review Tribunal are studied, the service of the Mental Health Review Tribunal could be fully evaluated.