

Mental Healthcare Act (MHCA), 2017

1. Replaces the Mental Health Act, 1987.
2. Rights-based legislation ensuring access to mental healthcare, dignity, autonomy, and confidentiality.
3. Introduces Advance Directives, allowing individuals to specify preferred treatment.
4. Establishes Central and State Mental Health Authorities.
5. Sets up Mental Health Review Boards to protect patient rights.
6. Decriminalises attempted suicide and mandates care for individuals under severe stress.
7. Regulates Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) and prohibits its use on minors.
8. Mandates community-based treatment and non-discrimination.