

If your hearing is delayed, missed or cancelled

The Tribunal is currently receiving a lot of requests for hearings. Because of this, there may be delays and we may not be able to conduct your hearing. This page explains what will happen if your hearing is delayed, missed or cancelled because we are unable to conduct your hearing.

I applied to have my treatment order revoked (cancelled) and my hearing hasn't been scheduled

If you've applied for a hearing to have your treatment order revoked (cancelled), we'll schedule a hearing as soon as a hearing time becomes available.

If this takes more than 8 weeks we will call you to ask if you want to continue your application.

We'll notify you of your hearing date at least 1-2 weeks before your hearing. If we have your mobile number, we'll also text you to let you know your hearing has been scheduled.

My community treatment order was varied to an inpatient treatment order and my hearing is overdue

If you have been an inpatient for more than 28 days and we haven't scheduled your hearing, we will write to you to let you know your hearing has been delayed.

We will schedule your hearing as soon as a hearing time becomes available. We will notify you of your hearing date at least 5 days before your hearing. If we have your mobile number, we will also text you to let you know your hearing has been scheduled.

If your inpatient treatment order is varied back to a community treatment order, a hearing will no longer be needed.

My hearing was 'adjourned on the papers'. What does that mean?

If the Tribunal needs more time to hold your hearing, we can decide to adjourn your hearing and extend your treatment order 'on the papers' without talking to you and your health service. If this happens we will send you the new expiry date of your treatment order.

What happens next?

- Once we've organised a new hearing date, we'll send you a new notice of hearing.
- If we have your mobile number, we'll also send you a text message with your new hearing date.

My hearing has been rescheduled

If the Tribunal needs to change the date of your hearing, we'll try to give you as much notice as possible. Unfortunately, sometimes changes are needed at short notice, including on the day of your hearing. If this happens your health service will let you know.

If we have your mobile number, we'll text you to tell you your hearing is being rescheduled. We'll also text you the new date of your hearing when it is set.

We'll aim to provide you with at least 5 to 7 business days notice of your new hearing.

My hearing has been missed or cancelled

The Tribunal will only miss or cancel your hearing if we have no other option.

If this happens we'll write to you, your treating team, and your support people (if we have their details) to let you know we weren't able to hold your hearing.

If your treatment order expires and your treating team believes you still meet the criteria for compulsory treatment, they can restart the compulsory treatment process by making an assessment order and a temporary treatment order.

Advice and support

You can:

- Talk to your treating team about your situation.
- Talk to someone about your rights:
 - Independent Mental Health Advocacy – Ph. 1300 947 820
 - Mental Health Legal Rights Service Helpline – Ph. 1800 849 806
 - Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service – Ph. (03) 9418 5920
- Contact the Tribunal – Ph. 3032 3200

Feedback and complaints

If you would like to make a complaint or provide feedback to the Tribunal, you can email mht@mht.vic.gov.au, use the [Contact us form](#) on our website or mail us at:

Mental Health Tribunal
GPO Box 4057
Melbourne VIC 3001