Ryan's Rule Guide

What is Ryan's Rule?

Ryan's Rule allows patients, families and carers in Queensland public hospitals to request an urgent clinical review if they believe a patient's condition is getting worse and their concerns are not being recognised.

When should it be used?

If a patient is deteriorating, you have raised your concerns with the treating team, and you still believe another clinical review is needed.

How does it work?

Step 1: Speak with the treating team.
Step 2: Escalate to the nurse in charge or senior doctor.
Step 3: Ask staff to activate Ryan's Rule.

Important

Ryan's Rule is an escalation pathway for clinical concerns. It is not a complaints process.

Queensland Hospital Watch
Supporting Queensland patients through information, advocacy and shared experiences.

Disclaimer: General information only. Please seek medical advice for emergencies or contact Queensland Hospital Watch if you need help understanding the available pathways.