Table 1. Referral Criteria for Medium Secure Adolescent Forensic Units

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| **Referral Criteria** |
| **The young person is under 18 years of age at the time of referral** |
| *AND* |
| **The young person could be detained under Part II or Part III of the MHA (1983)** |
| *AND* |
| *EITHER* |
| **The young person presents a significant risk to others *of one or more* of the following:** |
| * **Direct serious violence liable to result in injury to people** |
| * **Sexually aggressive behaviour** |
| * **Destructive and potentially life-threatening use of fire** |
| *NB: It is not necessary that the referred young person should be facing criminal charges for these risk behaviours, but it is necessary that there should be reliable accounts of such behaviour)* |
| *OR* |
| **The young person is in custodial care and presents a serious risk of suicide and/or severe self-harm** |
| *AND* |
| **There is clear evidence prior to referral that serious consideration (and testing where appropriate) of less secure provision will exceed the ability of available mental health services to meet the needs of the young person.** |
| Obtained from Hoare, T. and Wilson, J (2010) Directory of services for high risk young people. |