When the police bring you into hospital because they are worried about your mental health

Information for patients being treated under the Mental Health Act







EasyRead version



East London NHS Trust runs hospitals and community health services.



We wrote this information to help you understand your rights.



This is an EasyRead version of Admission of Mentally Disordered Persons Found in a Public Place (Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983).



The Mental Health Act is the law that tells people with a **mental disorder** about their rights and how they can be treated.



Mental disorder means a disorder or disability of the mind such as:

a mental illness



a learning disability



a personality disorder.

About you







The name of your hospital and ward:



Why you are in hospital



A police officer brought you to this hospital because they are worried about your mental health.



The Mental Health Act says we can keep you here for 72 hours to start with.



In that time a doctor and another person who understands mental health must decide whether you need to be in hospital.



If they think you need to be in hospital they can ask a second doctor if they agree.



You cannot leave during this time unless the person in charge of your care says you can.



Staff can stop you if you try to leave.



We can bring you back if you do leave.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	24 hours	48 hour	72 hours)		

Your 72 hours will end at:

Date	Time	



What happens next



If you need to stay in hospital for longer, we will explain what this means and how long you might have to stay.



Staff will give you a leaflet about this.



If you do not need to stay in hospital, we will tell you about other help you can get.



If you do not agree with this



You cannot **appeal** (ask us to look at it again) if you do not think you should be in hospital.



Your treatment



The staff will talk to you if they think you need treatment.



You can say whether you want the treatment or not.



Usually, we cannot treat you if you do not agree to it.



We will explain this to you.



Telling your Nearest Relative



We will give your Nearest Relative a copy of this leaflet.



The staff can give you a leaflet about who your Nearest Relative is and what they can do.

We have been told your Nearest Relative is:



If you do not want them to have a copy of this leaflet, please tell your nurse or a member of staff.



You can ask the county court to change your Nearest Relative. The staff can give you a leaflet about this.



Your letters



We will give you all the letters that are sent to you.



You can write letters to anyone, unless people say they do not want letters from you.



If you write to them, we will stop the letters.



The Code of Practice



The Code of Practice tells staff how to treat people under the Mental Health Act.



They have to think about it when they decide about your care.



You can ask to see a copy of the Code.



How to complain



Please tell the staff if you are not happy with your care and treatment in hospital.



If they cannot sort things out they will tell you how to complain. They can also tell you about people like an independent mental health advocate who can help you.



If you are not happy with how the hospital deals with your complaint you can tell the Care Quality Commission. They do not work for the NHS and check that people use the Mental Health Act properly.



Staff can give you a leaflet about how to contact the Commission.



How to find out more



Please ask the person who gave you this leaflet or other member of staff if:

you do not understand anything



you want to ask any questions



 you want a copy of this leaflet for someone else.

Credits



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