Going back into hospital from a Community Treatment Order

Information for patients being treated under the Mental Health Act







EasyRead version



East London NHS Trust runs mental health and community health services.



We wrote this information to help you understand your rights.



This is an EasyRead version of Recall to Hospital of a Patient on a Community Treatment Order. Section 17E 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







Name of the person in charge of your treatment:



The name of your hospital and ward:



Date your community treatment ended:



Why you are back in hospital



You are back in hospital because the person in charge of your treatment thinks you need to be here because:



 Your mental health has got worse and you need treatment in hospital or



 You did not go to an appointment to check your health. This means you broke the rules about community treatment.



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



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.



What happens next



The person in charge of your care decides when you can leave hospital.



If they decide you can leave within 72 hours

You will go back on the community treatment order.



The person in charge of your treatment will tell you why you had to come back to hospital and what happens next.

If they decide you need to stay in hospital longer



The person in charge of your treatment and an approved mental health professional can end your community treatment order.



This means you have to stay in hospital like you did before.



The person in charge of your treatment will explain why they think you need to be in hospital again.



An approved mental health professional is trained to help decide if you need to be kept in hospital under the Mental Health Act.



If you do not agree with this



You can only ask the Hospital Managers to let you leave if you have to stay for more than 72 hours. If this happens we will tell you about your rights and how to contact them.



The Hospital Managers are a group who decide if people should be kept in hospital.



Your treatment



The person in charge of your care will talk about your treatment in hospital. You usually have to agree to what they say.



If it is more than one month since the community treatment order started, there are special rules about drugs and medicines.



If it is more than 3 months since you first had treatment in hospital or the community we cannot give you any medicine or drugs if you say no or are too ill to agree, unless the doctor in charge thinks you should have the treatment or a doctor who is not from the hospital thinks they are right for you.



This independent doctor is called a SOAD (Second Opinion Appointed Doctor). They will talk to you at the hospital and decide what treatment is right for you.



If you saw an independent doctor before you came back to hospital, staff can give you the medicine or drugs this doctor said you should have.



There are different rules for special treatments like ECT (Electro Convulsive Therapy). Staff will talk to you if you need them and give you another leaflet.



Independent mental health advocate



You can have support from an independent mental health advocate if you want it.



The advocate is independent. This means they do not work for the NHS or anyone else involved in your care.



They can:

tell you about your rights



 help you understand what is happening

easy read v1.0



help you tell people what you want.



Ask the staff where there is a telephone for you to talk to the advocacy service in private.



The telephone number for the advocacy service is:



You can ask a member of staff or your Nearest Relative to telephone them for you.



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.

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