

Sending you to hospital to decide what treatment is best for you

Information for patients being treated under
the Mental Health Act



East London 
NHS Foundation Trust

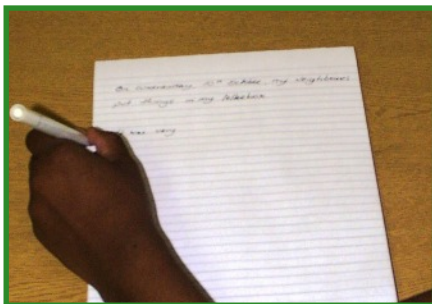
easy
read



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 **Remand to Hospital For Assessment (Section 35 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



Your name:



Name of the person in charge of your treatment:



Name of the your hospital and ward:



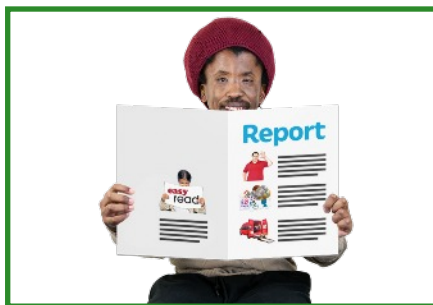
Date you were sent to hospital:



Why am I in hospital?



The court sent you to this hospital. In court a doctor said you may have a mental disorder.



The court wants us to write a report about your mental health.



How long will I be here?



The court said how long you must stay here. It will be up to 28 days (4 weeks).



You cannot leave the hospital unless the court says so.



If you try to leave staff can stop you. If you do leave you can be brought back here.



You may also be arrested by police and go back to court.



What will happen to me here?



Hospital staff will tell you what treatment they think you need.



You have the right to refuse the treatment.



There are a very few times that staff can give you treatment you do not want. This will be explained to you.



What happens next



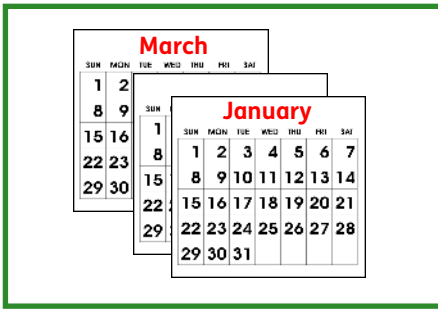
You will be here for the time the court said. Then we will tell the court if you need to be in hospital longer.



Only the court can say you have to stay longer than 28 days.



Every 28 days the court has to decide if you need to stay in hospital longer.



The longest the court can keep you in hospital this way is 12 weeks.



You do not have to go back to court each time. But you must have a lawyer there to speak up for you.



The court can decide at any time that you can leave hospital.



Can I appeal if I do not agree with this?



You can ask the court to send you to prison or give you bail (money you give to the court to promise that you will go back to court).



You can ask another doctor to write a report saying you do not need to stay in hospital. This may help with an appeal. You will have to pay for the report.



The court will decide if you have to stay in hospital.



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



- 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 to telephone them for you.



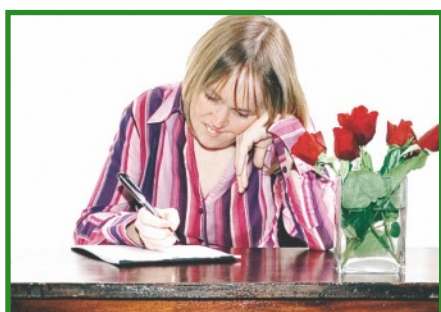
Your letters



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.



Credits

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