

Asist fact sheet

Mental Health, Rights and Responsibilities



clear communication

Rights and Responsibilities



By law everyone has rights and responsibilities.

Every patient has the right to treatment with their mental health when they need it in hospital, in a care home or in the community.



By law mental health professionals have a responsibility to act in the best interest of the patient.

Sometimes patients and mental health professionals do not agree on what is best.



Mental health professionals can decide that a patient has to stay in hospital or somewhere else for treatment without their consent.

This is called being sectioned. The patient still has some rights by law.

Rights and Responsibilities



If a patient agrees to stay for treatment they are an informal patient.

Informal patients have the right to refuse treatment and medication and can leave the hospital or care home where they are getting treatment.



If this happens mental health professionals have a responsibility to act in the best interest of the patient.

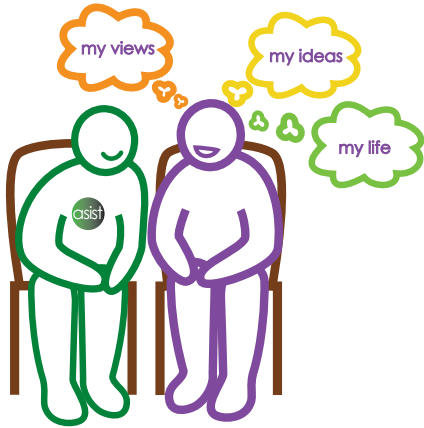
Mental health professionals must make sure the patient stays safe and well.



This means the mental health professional can keep the patient in hospital or the care home.

The mental health professional can then section the patient and treat the patient without their consent.

Your Advocate



Your advocate can support you, listen to you, ask questions for you.



Your advocate can find more information for you.

Just ask...



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