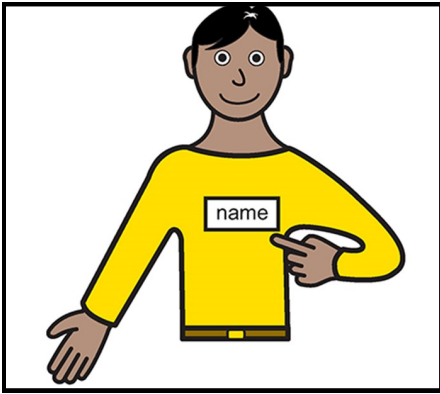


# **Section 20**

# **Mental Health Act 1983**



Your name

.....



The approved clinician in charge  
of your assessment and treatment  
is :

.....

They are a specialist in mental  
health.



You are currently in a mental  
health hospital called

.....

You are on..... Ward

Phone number.....



## Mental Health Act 1983

Your section of the Mental Health Act has been renewed.

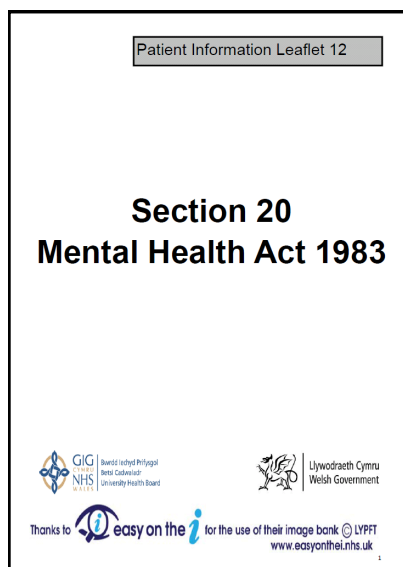


Date your original section began

.....

Date your renewal period began

.....



This leaflet is to help you understand what this means.

A qualified member of staff should read through this leaflet with you.

They will be able to answer any of your questions.

# Why do I have to stay in hospital?



Your responsible clinician has decided you still need treatment in hospital because of your mental disorder.



An approved mental health professional has agreed with your responsible clinician.

They have decided you need to be in hospital at the moment.



Even if you feel the section is wrong, for now it will continue.

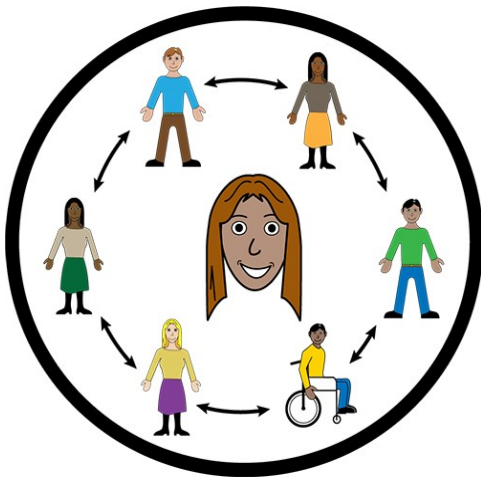


You can be kept in hospital because your section of the Mental Health Act 1983 has been renewed.

Mental Health Act 1983 The Mental Health Act 1983 is a law.

You are at the centre of your care and treatment.

You must be given enough information to make an informed decisions about your care.



However the Mental Health Act allows you to be treated without your consent if you are detained.

This can only happen if the treatment is for your mental health problem and is prescribed by your approved clinician.

You can ask an IMHA or your care team for more information.

# How long will I be in hospital?



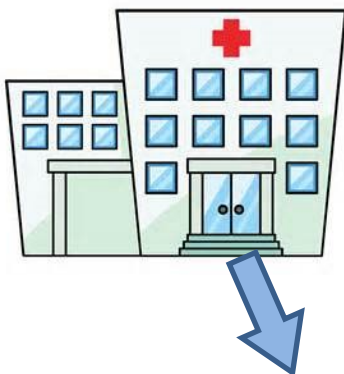
You can be kept in hospital for up to 6 months.

If you need to stay for longer your section might be renewed.



If you are better before 6 months your doctor could take you off your section.

This means you could go home.



If you want to leave the hospital for a short time, talk to your doctor.

They need to decide if it is safe.

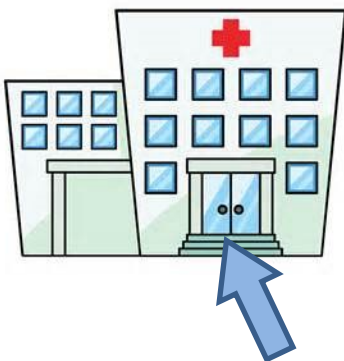


If the doctor agrees, they will say where you can go and what time you have to come back.

This is called section 17 leave.

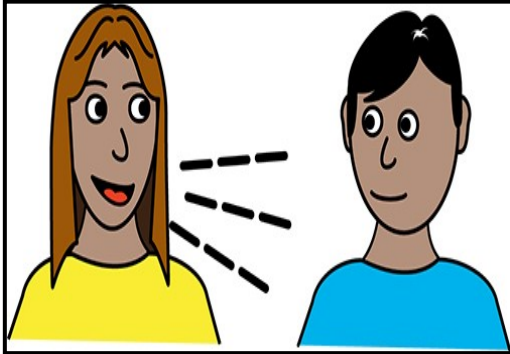


If you try to leave before the doctor says it is ok, you will be stopped.



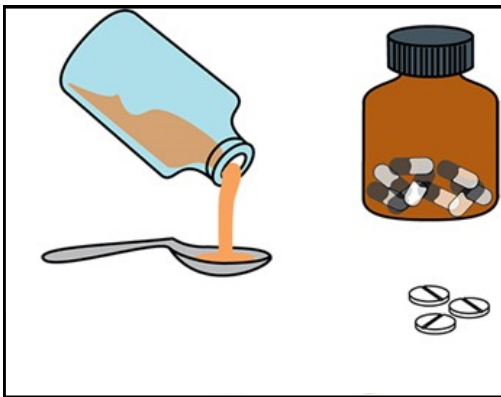
If you leave hospital before the doctor says it is ok, you will be brought back.

# What help will I get in hospital?



The staff at the hospital will offer you treatment to help with

.....



You may have to take tablets or medicine.



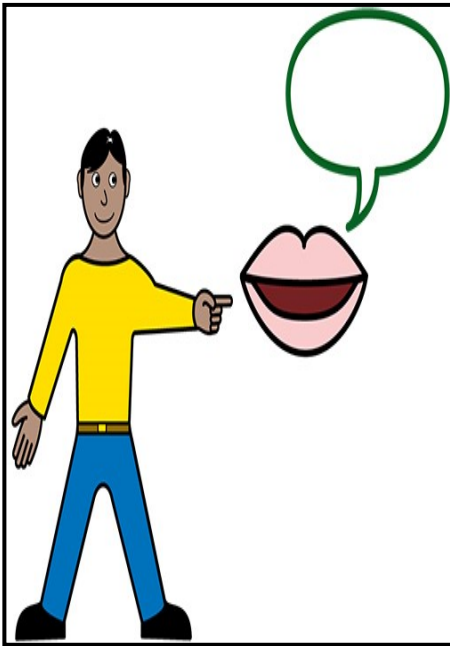
You will have a care coordinator who will help write a care and treatment plan with you.

Your care coordinator is:

.....



You have a **RIGHT** to an independent mental health advocate sometimes called an IMHA.



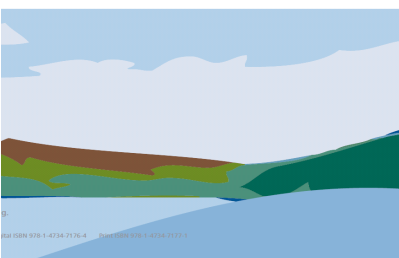
- They can help you understand your rights and treatment options
- They can help get support and legal representation
- They can help you complain
- They do not work for the hospital and will speak up on your behalf
- The service is free and confidential

If you would like an IMHA, speak to the staff, who can give you more information.



Mental Health Act 1983  
**Code of Practice**  
*for Wales* Review

Revised 2016



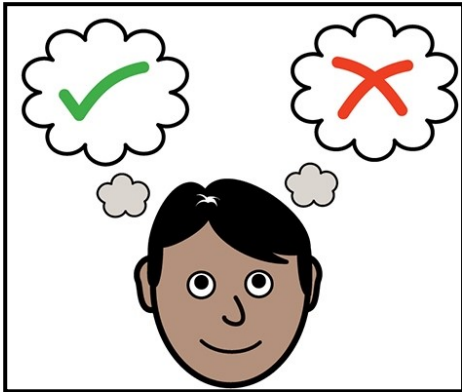
The Code of Practice for Wales gives advice to staff about the Mental Health Act.

They have to think about what the code says when making decisions about your care.

You can ask staff to look at a copy or visit:

<http://gov.wales/docs/dhss/publications/160920mentalacten.pdf>

# What happens next?



If you don't agree with your section renewal you can be asked to be discharged from hospital.

There is another leaflet explaining how you can do this.



You should be able to have visits from your family and friends when you are in hospital.

Normally you can write and receive letters and parcels from anybody.



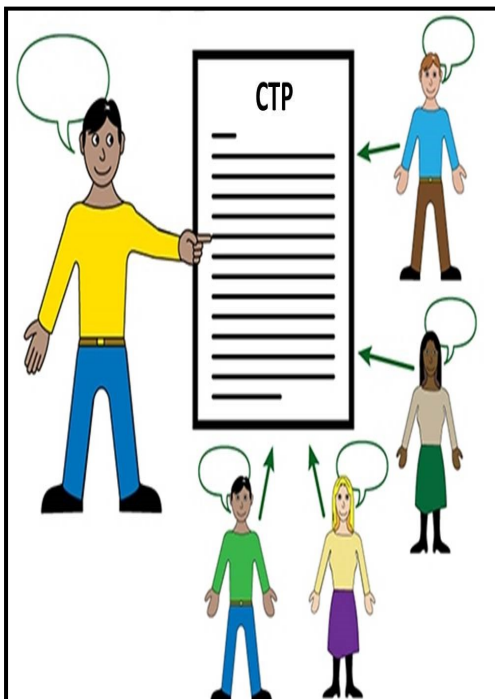
The Mental Health Act gives the Hospital Managers power to stop your letters or parcels if someone asks not to receive them.

If this happens you will be notified in writing.



Your care and treatment will be discussed at weekly meeting called a ward round.

There will be bigger meetings called reviews.



Everyone involved with your care and treatment should be invited to your review.

This can also involve your family and/or carers if you want.

Both of these meetings are a good time to talk about your:

- Leave
- Medication
- Problems
- Feelings



Your section can be renewed for another 6 months or year if needed.

This will be decided in a review.

# Letting your nearest relative know

A leaflet explaining this information will be given to your nearest relative.

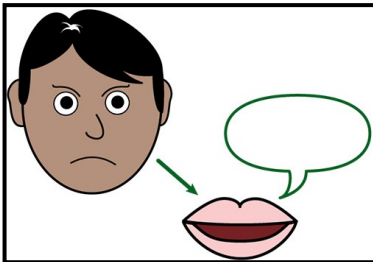
We understand your nearest relative is

.....

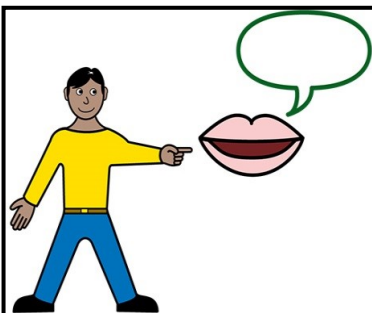
If you don't want them to have this information please tell the person in charge of the ward.

## Making a Complaint

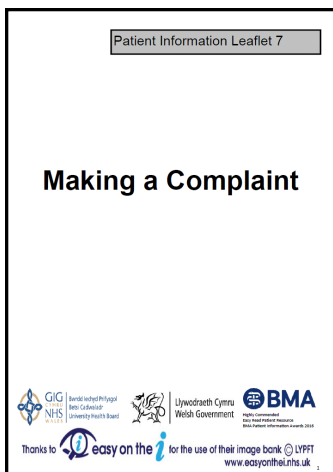
If you are unhappy with your care whilst you are in hospital you can complain.



If you are unhappy about how you are treated you can talk to your care team.



You can also talk to your IMHA who can help you make a complaint.



If you would like more information about making a complaint there is another leaflet to help.