

Advocacy

You or your family may need help to understand the mental health system.

Peer Worker or Carer Consultant

Your treatment centre or community service may have Peer Workers or Carer Consultants who can assist you. Please ask staff for more information.

Community Visitor Scheme

Independent advocacy for people receiving inpatient and community care.

Tel: 08 7425 7802 / Toll free: 1800 606 302

Disability Advocacy and Complaints Service of South Australia

Can assist with advocacy and complaints.

Tel: 08 7122 6030

Disability Rights Advocacy Service Inc.

Individual and systemic advocacy.

Tel: 08 8351 9500

Office of the Public Advocate

Independent information and advice.

Tel: 08 8342 8200 / Toll free: 1800 066 969

Legal Assistance

Your Personal or Family Lawyer

Can help with legal advice or assistance.

Reviews (appeals)

South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT)

Can review an order on request.

Tel: 1800 723 767

Internet: www.sacat.sa.gov.au

Legal Representation Scheme

Legal Services Commission

Can provide legal representation during a review or appeal.

Tel: 1300 366 424

Language Assistance

Interpreting and Translating Centre

Tel: 1800 280 203 (South Australia)

Translating and Interpreting Service

Tel: 131 450 (National)

Automated (ATIS): 1800 131 450

National Relay Service

For hearing and speaking difficulties

Voice/TTY: 133 677

Speak and listen: 1300 555 727

Deaf Can Do - Auslan Interpreters

Tel: 0417 233 369

Aboriginal Interpreter Service

Tel: (08) 8999 2062 / ais@nt.gov.au

Complaints

Your Treatment Centre or Community Service

Your health service has officers who can assist with enquiries and complaints.

Please ask staff for more information.

Office of the Chief Psychiatrist

Can assist with making a complaint and advise on the *Mental Health Act 2009*.

Tel: 08 8226 1091

The Health and Community Services

Complaints Commissioner

Can investigate complaints if a previous complaint process has failed.

Tel: 08 8226 8666

Toll free: 1800 232 007

For more information

Office of the Chief Psychiatrist

Telephone: 8226 1091

www.chiefpsychiatrist.sa.gov.au



www.ausgoal.gov.au/creative-commons



Government
of South Australia

SA Health



Government
of South Australia

SA Health

Mental Health Act 2009 Statement of Rights #4

Inpatient Treatment Orders

Office of the Chief Psychiatrist

Information about your rights when you are on an Inpatient Treatment Order

If you need help to understand this pamphlet, or your treatment, please ask staff at any time.

What is an Inpatient Treatment Order?

The *Mental Health Act 2009* provides Inpatient Treatment Orders as the legal way of giving you treatment against your will when you have a mental illness and are at risk. You will be required to stay in a treatment centre until your order expires or is revoked.

An Inpatient Treatment Order will only be made when there is no less restrictive way of ensuring that you get treatment.

What does it mean if I am on an Inpatient Treatment Order?

If you are on an Inpatient Treatment Order you are required to stay in a treatment centre and receive treatment for your mental illness.

You will have access to a broad range of treatments, which are based on the best evidence of what is most effective for your mental illness. Treatment may include medication and other therapies, including talking with you.

Treatment will be provided by trained health professionals such as doctors, nurses, occupational therapists, social workers and psychologists. These professionals will work with you to help you recover. You can discuss your treatment at any time with your treating team.

Sometimes your mental health may not improve and you may be placed on another Inpatient Treatment Order, requiring you to stay longer in a treatment centre to support your recovery.

Children under 16 years old

If you are under 16 years old then your parent or guardian can exercise all rights on your behalf, taking your preferences into consideration.

What are my rights when I am on an Inpatient Treatment Order?

You and your support person (if appropriate) will receive a copy of your Order and this Statement of Rights as soon as possible and practical.

You can have someone support you during examination and treatment if you wish, within limits set by a doctor or treatment centre. The support person can be a guardian, substitute decision maker (medical agent), relative, carer, friend or a voluntary or professional advocate.

Your treatment and care will be provided in line with a recovery-focussed Treatment and Care Plan. You and your support person (if appropriate) will be involved in the preparation and review of the plan as much as possible and practical.

You can have an interpreter to help you to understand your rights and care.

You may have visitors while you are in the treatment centre and you may communicate with people outside. You will have reasonable privacy but treatment centres will have limits and conditions, such as visiting hours and when phones can be used.

You can request a Leave of Absence away from the treatment centre for short periods, to assist with your recovery. Please talk to your treating team to see if this is possible for you.

If you leave the treatment centre or the company of your care team without permission, or don't return after a Leave of Absence, your treating team must ensure you return to the treatment centre and may request the assistance of Police.

If you are unhappy with the treatment you receive, you can speak with your treating team at any time. If you are not satisfied that your concerns have been addressed, you may make a formal complaint.

The other side of this pamphlet provides the contact details for services that can assist with advocacy, interpreting and complaints.

Confidentiality

Information about you is confidential but may be disclosed with your permission, or if required by law, to provide services or to maintain safety. Information may also be shared with other services, or a relative, carer or friend, if it is reasonably required for your treatment and care and is in your best interests.

Right to ask for a review (appeal)

You may ask the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT) to review your order. Other people may also request a review on your behalf, including a support person or advocate.

If you wish to apply for a review, please talk to your treating team or contact SACAT. During the review process, you may represent yourself, or you can hire a lawyer, or you can have a lawyer appointed to you and paid for by the Legal Representation Scheme run by the Legal Services Commission.

Cross Border Arrangements

If you are absent without leave from a South Australian Inpatient Treatment Order and go to another State, you may receive treatment in the new State or be returned to South Australia.

If you are on an Inpatient Treatment Order from another State, you may receive treatment in South Australia or be returned to your home State.