

## Information on involuntary commitment

Your doctors decided that you have to stay here at the hospital. Such a decision is called an involuntary commitment order.

### **For how long will this involuntary commitment order be effective?**

Such an order is only permitted if, due to mental illness, there is serious danger to yourself or others and there are no alternative treatment options. Involuntary commitment must be discontinued as soon as these conditions cease to exist.

### **Who reviews the doctors' decision?**

Involuntary commitment orders are reviewed by a court. A judge will come to the hospital about four days after the start of your involuntary commitment. This judge will decide whether you may leave the hospital. If the judge decides that you need to stay at the hospital, the court will fix a date for another review. However, the doctors may end your involuntary commitment even before this date.

### **What can patients' advocates do for you?**

We inform you about your rights and stand up for your concerns. We represent you at the court hearing. We are independent of the hospital and obliged to maintain confidentiality. You do not have to pay for our services. You can contact us also after you have been discharged from the hospital.

### **Do you want to bring in a person you trust?**

You can ask your doctors to bring in a person you trust to support you.

### **Do you disagree with any particular treatment?**

Tell your doctors if you refuse any particular treatment. You may also request for the court to decide on a treatment before its implementation. The court may also review other measures that have been taken against your will at a later date.

### **Contact us if you have any further questions:**

