

## Mental Health Act Managers' Review hearing

To help the AMHAMs decide whether to discharge a person from detention they receive a number of written reports before the review hearing. These reports are written by medical, nursing and social care staff. You will be sent a copy of these reports.

A review panel consists of three AMHAMs and every effort will be made to have a member on the panel who is the same gender as yourself. Your responsible clinician, care coordinator and nurse may attend to answer questions the panel may have about your care and your stay in hospital.

You have the right to have a relative, advocate or legal representative at the hearing. If you need an interpreter one can be arranged by the ward staff.

## At the review meeting

The review meetings are normally held in a designated room or on the ward. The panel will introduce themselves and will ask you for your views and opinions about being detained. They will also ask you if you want to be seen alone at the end of the meeting. The panel then considers the reports from your care team and there will be a chance for discussion.

If you have requested that your nearest relative is not invited, their views can be included in the reports of the care team. They will then ask everyone to leave the meeting whilst they consider all the information. Once a decision has been reached, one of the panel members will speak to you as soon as possible to explain their decision.

## What if the AMHAM discharge me from section?

If you are discharged from a section you may be agreeable to staying in hospital as a voluntary or "informal" patient. However, you are within your rights to leave but please be guided by your care team.

# A Patient Guide on Associate Mental Health Act Managers

## Who is this guide for?

The purpose of this leaflet is to give you information about the review of detentions for patients like yourself, who are detained under the Mental Health Act (MHA) 1983.

## Who are Associate Mental Health Act Managers?

The use of the term “managers” can be confusing. Associate Mental Health Act Managers (AMHAMs) are not responsible for the day to day running of the hospital but have a delegated responsibility from the hospital manager to hear appeals and reviews of patients’ detentions. They come from all walks of life and are people who have been carefully selected. They are responsible for making sure that the MHA is used properly. AMHAMs are completely independent of the Trust so that they are impartial with a positive approach to fairness and equity in ensuring patients’ rights are maintained within the terms of the MHA. As lay people they are directly accountable to the Trust Board and as such are bound by a duty of confidence.

## How can the Associate Mental Health Act Managers help me?

If you have been detained under section 2, section 3 or section 37 of the MHA you have the right to appeal to the “Hospital Managers” - against your detention. You can ask the managers to review your detention.

AMHAMs have the power to discharge someone from detention under a section of the Act and consider reports for the renewal of sections.

You can apply for a review of your detention as many times as you like although hearings are rarely heard within 28 days of a previous review or if there is a Tribunal due to be heard within the next 28 days.

## How do I make an appeal to the Associate Mental Health Act Managers?

### You can do this by writing to:

The Hospital Managers  
C/O Catherine Dixon  
Mental Health Act Administration  
Manager  
Michael Carlisle Centre  
75 Osborne Road  
Sheffield S11 9BF

A member of the nursing team will be able to help you with this if you are

### What happens if I appeal?

One of the AMHAMs will arrange to meet you on the ward and ask you some questions about how you are feeling and listen to the reasons why you want to appeal. They will generally tell you whether or not they will recommend that a review meeting will be held