

S17 Leave Mental Health Act 1983

Accompanied leave
Patient, family &
friend's information
leaflet



Accompanied leave

Accompanied leave may have been agreed as part of your or your relative / friend's ongoing care and treatment.

The purpose of having leave may be to continue to inform either your assessment or treatment plan, or that of your relative or friend's.

It may also promote recovery and help to prepare and plan for discharge. Leave may be agreed as follows:

- Section 17 (S17) leave is leave agreed as part of care and treatment under the Mental Health Act. S17 leave may have conditions attached to it that are considered to be necessary. If these conditions are not complied with, you or your relative / friend may be returned to hospital early as these are requirements within an act of Law.
- If you or your relative or friend is in hospital 'informally', there may be certain recommendations made by the clinical team as part of the arrangements for the period of leave in order for it to be as successful and safe as it can be.

Whether the leave is sanctioned under S17 or through a mutual agreement, it is important that relatives or friends understand and accept the responsibilities and conditions placed on a period of leave. To make these clear, they are listed on the next page.

Family & friends should undertake to not engage in lifestyle choices or decisions that will:

- Have a detrimental and negative impact on their ability to meet these conditions, or:
- That might have a negative impact on the patient whilst on leave.
- They should also know who to contact if they need further support or advice.

A period of leave has been agreed within the following dates and time frames:

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Conditions or recommendations for leave –i.e. address for leave, names of those who should accompany patient, places or people the patient should **not** visit, social or recreational activities they should **not** engage in:

.....
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.....

Relative/friend providing accompanied leave –

I confirm I have had conditions of leave or recommendations explained to me, and I undertake to uphold them

Print Name.....

Signature.....

Date.....

Staff to upload to patients electronic record

CONTACT US

Any problems while on leave, we are here to support you.

Insert your ward or units contact details here:



NHS Direct: 111



Emergency Services: 999

Complaints and Feedback Team
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