

Inspection of Wismari Hospital

Advisors to the Chancellor of Justice paid an unannounced visit to Wismari Hospital on 29 August 2014.

Wismari Hospital provides inpatient and outpatient psychiatry services to 25 patients. Inpatient psychiatry service is provided in two departments. Three patients were in involuntary psychiatric care at the time of the inspection.

The last time the Chancellor of Justice inspected the hospital was on 15 November 2012.

As a result of the inspection visit the Chancellor of Justice made the following suggestions to Wismari Hospital to guarantee the fundamental rights and freedoms of persons:

- to guarantee that the restraining of patients in the observation room is safe and the patient is not within sight of other patients whilst being restrained;
- to restrain patients only with professional aids that guarantee protection of the patient's health;
- to guarantee that the implementation of restraining measures in the hospital is documented in a manner that complies with established requirements and makes it possible to inspect:
- the reasons why restraining measures were implemented (incl. the situation that preceded the implementation of restraining measures and the unsuitability of alternative measures);
- the frequency of monitoring the restrained person;
- the need to continue restraining the person (incl. the continued unsuitability of alternative measures);
- explanation of the need and reasons for restraining to the patient;
- to inform the Health Board if a patient is restrained for more than 24 hours in a row;
- to give patients more information about their rights, obligations and treatment;
- to guarantee that drugs are preserved according to requirements and in such a manner that they cannot be accessed by unauthorised persons.

The Chancellor of Justice requests that Wismari Hospital send information about its compliance with the recommendations by 1 December 2014.