

## **Inspection of the Nursing and Care Centre of Pärnu Hospital**

Advisers to the Chancellor of Justice paid an unannounced visit to the Nursing and Care Centre of Pärnu Hospital on 7 August 2014 to inspect the centre's activities in the provision of inpatient nursing care.

The Nursing and Care Centre of Pärnu Hospital (hereinafter the Centre) provides nursing care as well as general care home services in a three-storey building located at Ravi 2, Pärnu. The hospital has been issued with an activity permit for providing inpatient nursing care 80 people and general care home service to 23 people.

The Chancellor of Justice had not inspected the centre before.

As a result of the inspection the Chancellor of Justice advised Pärnu Hospital to:

- to guarantee that the appropriate consent for the provision of nursing care is always requested from patients arriving for nursing care or their legal representatives and that such consent is recorded in writing;
- in the case of patients who are unable to consider the pros and cons in a responsible manner and whose active legal capacity is limited, explain to them (if the patient's condition permits it), their close family members or the local authority that if there is no need to provide the service immediately, it is necessary to ask a court to appoint a legal representative for the patient who could give the appropriate consent for the provision of the service on behalf of the patient, before the provision of the nursing care starts;
- to ascertain in each case whether the court has granted the patient's legal representative the right to decide on the provision of a health service on behalf of the patient;
- to guarantee that the explanation of why the nursing care provider found the patient to be incapable of making decisions or that a patient with limited active legal capacity is unable to responsibly consider the pros and cons of the provision of the nursing care is recorded in the patient's medical records.

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