

## **Inspection visit to Wismari Hospital**

On 30 November 2019, advisers to the Chancellor of Justice carried out an unannounced inspection visit to Wismari Haigla AS (Wismari Hospital). Together with a healthcare expert, the advisers to the Chancellor of Justice visited the rooms of the hospital, talked to the hospital's staff and patients, and examined the hospital's documents.

Wismari Hospital has 25 beds. On the day of the inspection visit, 20 patients were receiving treatment at the hospital. All patients were receiving voluntary treatment. An on-call psychiatrist is always present at the hospital. The hospital has two nurses and two caregivers on call during the day, and one nurse and one caregiver on call in the evenings and at night (from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m.).

The wards and common rooms of the hospital were clean. Toilets and washrooms can be locked from the inside. According to the patients, the staff are friendly and the food is good. Patients are allowed to wear their personal clothes. The staff confirmed that the hospital's team is supportive of one another and that both the nurses and the doctors have long-term experience in the treatment of patients with withdrawal symptoms.

The Chancellor of Justice emphasises that where medics prohibit the patients from freely leaving the hospital, the decision of applying involuntary treatment must be properly documented. If no such decision has been drawn up, the patients cannot be prevented from leaving the hospital. Patients should be able to go outside for a walk at least once a day and all patients arriving at the hospital should be provided with drinking cups and bath towels.

Patients should have a more varied selection of leisure activities made available to them. The hospital should also consider organising therapeutic activities for patients receiving in-patient treatment. Patients should be better informed about video surveillance and its extent, and the treatment history must include reasoning on why video surveillance was used for observing a patient.