

Inspection of the Psychiatry Clinic of the South Estonian Hospital

On 22 January 2013 advisers to the Chancellor of Justice paid an unannounced visit to the inpatient psychiatry department for adults at the Psychiatry Clinic of the South Estonian Hospital.

As a result of the inspection the Chancellor of Justice makes the following suggestions to the South Estonian Hospital to guarantee the fundamental rights and freedoms of persons:

- when decisions on involuntary treatment are made, it must be guaranteed that in all cases where involuntary treatment is unavoidable for the protection of the person themselves or the general public and a court order cannot be obtained as quickly as necessary, the decision to subject a person to involuntary treatment is made by a psychiatrist from the department and that they do so on the person's arrival in the department or in the case of a person receiving voluntary treatment when the need for involuntary treatment emerges immediately after a medical examination;
- to guarantee that a person who has been admitted for involuntary treatment without the permission of a court is examined by another psychiatrist within 24 hours of the start of involuntary hospitalisation.