

Single Admission Certificate (Form 1) Information Sheet

What is an Admission Certificate (Form 1)?

An Admission Certificate also known as a **Form 1** is a *Mental Health Act* form filled out by a doctor or nurse practitioner who examined you within the past 24 hours and believes you:

- have a mental health problem,
- will benefit from treatment for the mental health problem,
- might hurt yourself or someone else, or the mental health problem may get worse without treatment, and
- need care that can only be given as a formal patient in a **facility** (a specific hospital for formal mental health treatment).

It allows you to be examined (which might include blood work), cared for, and taken to a facility for a second examination, even if you don't want to do these things. The doctor or nurse practitioner will decide the safest way to bring you to the facility, which might include law enforcement, an ambulance, a family member or other support. It also allows the use of medication or other methods to ensure your safety and the safety of staff.

You must be transported to the facility within **72 hours** of the Form 1 being filled out.

- If you do not arrive at the facility within 72 hours, the Form 1 will expire, requiring further consultation and next steps
- If you are transported, the facility staff have no more than **24 hours** from the time you arrive to ensure you are examined by a doctor or nurse practitioner.
- If you were already in the facility when the first Form 1 was filled out, the second examination must occur within **24 hours** of the first Form 1 being completed.

What are your rights?

When a Form 1 is filled out for you, your rights should be explained as soon as possible. Your rights include the right to:

- be told why you are being taken to or held at the facility,
- talk to a lawyer, and
- call the **Mental Health Patient Advocate** who can help you understand your rights and make sure they are upheld.
 - You can call them toll-free at **310-0000**, then dial **780-422-1812**. If calling from Edmonton, you can call 780-422-1812 directly.

If a second Form 1 is filled out at the facility, you become a **formal patient**. You'll get more information about formal patient rights if that happens.

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