

# Can I leave the ward?

All leave is arranged individually for all patients on the ward and you should understand how this affects you.

## Informal and voluntary patients

You have the right to leave the ward at any time.

However we may ask (depending on your personal care plan) that you stay on the ward for the first few days so you and staff can get to know each other.

If you would like to go on day leave or overnight leave, you can discuss this with your doctor or carer.

Please be aware that staff have a duty of care towards you and are expected to know where you are at all times.

Staff are required to assess you before you leave the ward. The outcome of this assessment will be discussed with you (and your carer where appropriate) and may result in you not being allowed to leave the ward.



## Detained patients

You are required to stay in hospital unless you have permission to leave from your responsible clinician (called 'Section 17 leave').