

## **What is a Section 12 in MA?**

**Section 12** is a transportation order to a hospital. Once the patient arrives at the hospital he/she must be evaluated by a physician (psychiatrist) to determine if he/she needs to be involuntarily committed for no more than 72 hours. Only the physician can make the commitment determination.

## **What happens after a section 12?**

**Section 12(a)** allows for an individual to be brought against his or her will to such a hospital for evaluation. **Section 12(b)** allows for an individual to be admitted to a psychiatric unit for up to three business days against the individual's will or without the individual's consent.

## **Can I Section myself?**

You **can** be sectioned by one doctor only (together with the approved mental health professional) and you **can** be taken to hospital in an emergency and assessed there. Your rights are different compared to your rights under other **sections**. For example, you cannot be treated without your consent.

## **How long is Section 12 Good For?**

**Section 12(a)** allows for an individual to be brought against his or her will to such a hospital for evaluation. **Section 12(b)** allows for an individual to be admitted to a psychiatric unit for up to three business days against the individual's will or without the individual's consent.