

Information on the Residential Stay Law

What is a restriction of freedom?

Just like you lots of people live in homes where they are looked after and cared for or are patients in hospitals. Your freedom of movement is sometimes restricted in order to prevent hazards such as injuries or falls. Examples of these restrictions include

- straps on wheelchairs or beds,
- side panels on beds,
- locked doors and even
- medicines, if they reduce the impulse to move.

When is restricting freedom of movement permitted?

The basic right to personal freedom is one of the most important human rights.

Your freedom may only be restricted in the following situations:

- in case of mental or physical impairment,
- if you or others are at risk,
- if there are no other softer options or alternatives. Alternatives include low beds, anti-roll mattresses, sensor mats or anti-slip mats, movement training or walking frames.



@ Nina Dietrich



What rights do you have if your freedom has been restricted?

- The restriction of movement must be explained to you.
- The restriction of movement must be lifted immediately if there are other options or if there is no longer any risk.
- The home or hospital must also record all restrictions of movement in writing and inform the Residential Advocacy Service.

What is the Residential Advocacy Service?

The residential advocates check if the restrictions of movement are necessary and appropriate.

- They talk to you, the staff and the managers.
- They read the (care) documentation.
- They suggest alternatives for restrictions of movement on an individual basis.
- If they are not sure, they appeal to the district court. The court then checks if the restriction of movement is permitted.

More information

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