

## Resources – I am supporting someone experiencing involuntary treatment.

### REPRESENTATIVE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

If you are supporting a young person who had a negative experience while detained and experiencing involuntary treatment under the Mental Health Act, the Representative for Children and Youth may be able to support.

You can find more information on the [Representative for Children and Youth](#) below:

**Website:** [rcybc.ca](http://rcybc.ca)

**Email:** [rcy@rcybc.ca](mailto:rcy@rcybc.ca)

**Phone:** 1-800-476-3933

### LEGAL RIGHTS UNDER THE MENTAL HEALTH ACT

If you would like basic information about the rights of someone you are supporting under the Mental Health Act, you can review the materials found on the BC Mental Health Rights website linked below. Please note that some of the information is out of date and updated materials will be added to the Independent Rights Advice website when they are ready.

**Website:** [bcmentalhealthrights.ca/](http://bcmentalhealthrights.ca/)

### MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW BOARD

If someone you are supporting does not agree with a decision to admit them as an involuntary patient, they have a right to challenge their admission through a review panel hearing at the Mental Health Review Board. The review panel is independent. There are 3 people on the panel who will hear the case and decide if the individual still meets all 4 criteria to be an involuntary patient. The hearing is free.

To support an individual in applying for a hearing, fill out [Form 7: Application for Review Panel Hearing](#).

You can contact the Mental Health Review Board for more information about hearings:

**Website:** [bcmhrb.ca](http://bcmhrb.ca)

**E-mail:** [MHRBscheduling@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MHRBscheduling@gov.bc.ca)

**Phone (toll free):** 1-833-660-2325

### Legal Representation at Mental Health Review Board Hearings

Legal assistance is available for people who wish to have a review panel hearing. If someone you are supporting would like to request free legal representation from the Mental Health Law Program, make sure that option is selected on the [Form 7: Application for Review Panel Hearing](#). The Mental Health Law Program will provide an advocate or lawyer for representation at the hearing and to help prepare the case.

**Website:** [clasbc.net](http://clasbc.net)

**E-mail:** [contact@clasbc.net](mailto:contact@clasbc.net)

**Phone (toll free):** 1 888 685 6222

### SECOND MEDICAL OPINIONS

The person you are supporting can ask for another opinion from a second doctor if there is a disagreement with treatment. This doctor will assess and give a second opinion on whether treatment is appropriate.

To get a second medical opinion, fill out [Form II: Request for Second Medical Opinion](#).

### CONCERNS ABOUT THE QUALITY OF CARE

#### Patient Care Quality Offices

If someone you are supporting would like to make a formal complaint regarding the quality of care that they received, or you would like more

information about making a complaint, you can contact the Patient Care Quality Office in your health authority.

- For the contact information for the Patient Care Quality Office in your health authority, including phone numbers and e-mail address, see [www.patientcarequalityreviewboard.ca/makecomplaint.html](http://www.patientcarequalityreviewboard.ca/makecomplaint.html)

### Patient Care Quality Review Board

If you have supported someone in submitting concerns to the health authority's Patient Care Quality Office and are not satisfied with how they were handled or the response received, a request can be made that the Patient Care Quality Review Board look into the matter.

**Website:** [www.patientcarequalityreviewboard.ca](http://www.patientcarequalityreviewboard.ca)

**E-mail:** [contact@patientcarequalityreviewboard.ca](mailto:contact@patientcarequalityreviewboard.ca)

**Phone (toll free):** 1-866-952-2448

### BC Ombudsperson

The BC Ombudsperson is independent and can help with complaints about public bodies like a mental health facility.

**Website:** [bcombudsperson.ca](http://bcombudsperson.ca)

**E-mail:** [info@bcombudsperson.ca](mailto:info@bcombudsperson.ca)

**Phone (toll free):** 1-800-567-3247

If you are supporting someone receiving involuntary treatment and would like more information about additional resources, please provide your contact information and we will reach out to you.

**Contact Us:** <https://irasbc.ca/reach-out/>