

## When should a referral not be made?

- When **serious medical intervention** is needed **immediately**
- When **treatment** is regulated by **Part 4 of the Mental Health Act**
- Where **accommodation** is needed **urgently**
- Where **restrictions** are placed on an individual's **accommodation** under the **mental health act**

## How to refer

**download** a referral form and find **more information** on our website

[www.advocacyforcroydon.org](http://www.advocacyforcroydon.org)

Tel **0345 310 1812 option 1**

It is important to **respond quickly** to referrals to **avoid delaying** decisions which need to be made. We will contact you as quickly as possible.

## Contact



0345 310 1812 option 1



referrals@advocacyforall.org.uk



www.advocacyforcroydon.org



Advocacy for All, The Civic Centre,  
St Mary's Road, Swanley, Kent BR8 7BU

# advocacy

for CROYDON

## Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA)



Independent Mental Capacity Advocates (IMCA) help people who are assessed to **lack capacity** about medical treatment or where they live and have **no family or friends** who are willing to represent their views.

This can include:

- People with **dementia** or **mental ill health**
- People with **learning disabilities**
- People with **physical disabilities**
- People who have had a **stroke**
- People with acquired **brain injuries**

This service is provided by Advocacy for All in the London Borough of Croydon



## When is an IMCA needed?

- where an NHS body is providing, withdrawing or stopping **serious medical treatment**
- when an NHS body or local authority is proposing a **stay in a care home of more than 8 weeks**
- when a person stays in **hospital longer than 28 days**

Referrals may also include **safeguarding adult cases** or

## An IMCA is

- **independent** of the person making the decision
- able to **meet** the person **in private**
- able to **see all relevant** health, social services and care home **records**
- able to **request** an **additional medical opinion**

## What does an IMCA do?

- **supports and represents** the person in the decision making process
- **find out** the person's past and present wishes, feelings, values
- **evaluate information** including accessing and copying relevant social and medical records
- evaluate **alternative courses** of action
- **consult with others** involved in the person's life
- seek a **further medical opinion** if necessary
- check the **Mental Capacity Act principles** and **best interest check list** are being followed
- **prepare a report**, which the decision maker has a legal duty to consider