

# COMMITTED TO CHANGE: REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

## MENTAL HEALTH ACT INVOLUNTARY ADMISSIONS

### WHAT WE EXAMINED: WERE LEGAL SAFEGUARDS FOLLOWED UPON ADMISSION?

2016/17

**15,000** approx.  
INVOLUNTARILY  
ADMITTED & TREATED  
PATIENTS  
IN BC FACILITIES

70%

INCREASE IN  
LAST 10 YEARS

#### HOW PATIENT RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED

Facilities are required to complete a set of legal forms on admission that show:

- Detention criteria met
- Consent to treatment obtained
- Notification of rights given
- Relatives notified

#### DETENTION CRITERIA

- Mental disorder & require treatment
- Substantial deterioration or risk of harm to self or others
- Can't be admitted voluntarily



### WHAT WE FOUND

#### HIGH LEVELS OF NON-COMPLIANCE



EXTRAORDINARY  
STATE POWER WITH  
LITTLE OVERSIGHT OR  
ACCOUNTABILITY

No Consent for  
Treatment form on  
**24%**  
of patient files

No Notification of  
Rights form on  
**51%**  
of patient files

#### FACILITIES COMPLETED ALL 5 REQUIRED FORMS

ONLY  
**28%**  
OF THE TIME

#### WE RECOMMEND

- 1 Regular auditing, annual performance targets, improved records management, and increased public reporting
- 2 Provincial standards and guidance with mandatory training
- 3 Independent rights advice service

ALL 24  
RECOMMENDATIONS  
ACCEPTED

