

# Forensic psychiatry in Europe: Concepts and service provision



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# Learning outcomes

- Understand the main differences in admission criteria to forensic-psychiatric care in Europe
- Have some knowledge of service provision for specific patient groups, in particular those with substance use disorders and long-stay patients
- Be able to reflect on service provision in your own working context in light of practice examples elsewhere

# Outline

- Europe
- History of forensic psychiatry
- Surveys of forensic-psychiatric care in Europe
- Basic characteristics of forensic psychiatry
  - Forensic beds
  - Admission criteria
  - Care pathways
  - Length of stay
- Practice examples
  - UK
  - Germany
  - Netherlands
  - Italy
- Discussion

# Europe



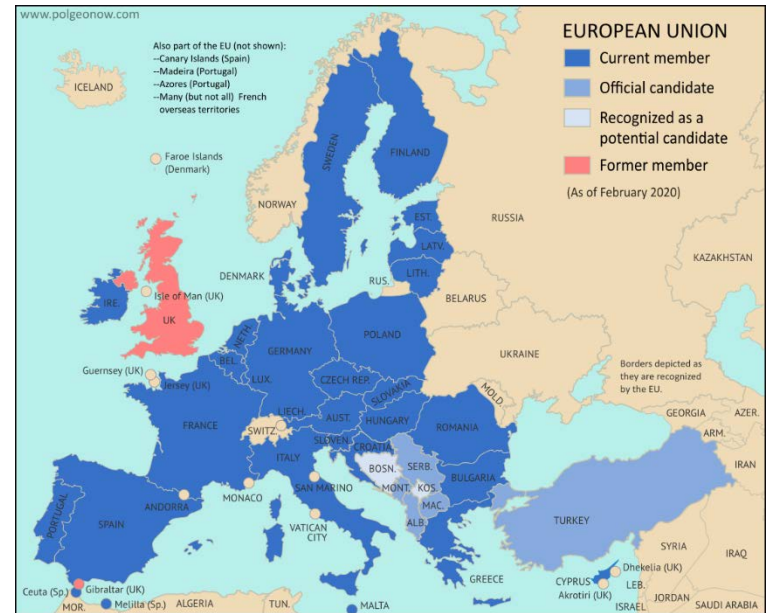
- Continent
- 10,180,000 km<sup>2</sup> (3,930,000 sq mi)
- 746,419,440 inhabitants
- 50 sovereign states



# Europe



- 47 states
- European Court of Human Rights



- 27 states
- 6 candidates
- Council of the EU, European Parliament, European Commission
- Free movement: people and goods

# Europe

- European Free Trade Organisation
- Schengen area
- Eurozone
- European Union
- Etc., e



# A brief history of forensic psychiatry

- Special regulations
  - Code Hammura punishment
  - Roman law: „fur
  - Constitutio Crim Article 179: „*Jer halben, wissent youth or other fr*
  - General State L Landrecht für di *handeln unvern auch keine Stra freely [with free cannot be punis*



ffenders“

exemption from full

2)

*Werer gebrechlichkeyt Somebody who due to of their sin.“)*

s (Allgemeines

1794: „*Wer frey zu*

*kein Verbrechen, also is not capable to acting ffence and therefore*



# A brief history of forensic psychiatry

- 1800 Criminal Lunatics Act
  - James Hadfield attempted to assassinate King George III (delusional belief – must die at hand of others)
  - Not guilty by reason of insanity
  - The Act: Indefinite detention of mentally ill offenders
- 1843 Mac Naughton rules
  - Daniel Mac Naughton attempted to assassinate Prime Minister (killed his secretary instead) - delusional
  - Rules for insanity defence
- 1871 German Penal Code: insanity
- Increased importance of psychiatric expertise on mental state of offenders

# A brief history of forensic psychiatry

- Earlier: offenders lived in their families
- The workhouses, (psychiatric) hospitals
- Establishment of forensic-psychiatric hospitals
  - Broadmoor Hospital 1863 (UK)
  - Netherlands TBS system 1928
  - Germany double-track system 1933
    - Criminally responsible - > punishment in prison
    - Not or diminished responsible - > „Besserung und Sicherung“ (improvement and security) – forensic-psychiatric hospital

# Salize et al. studies

General psychiatry 2002  
Forensic psychiatry 2005  
Prisons (EUPRIS) 2007



Austria  
Belgium  
Denmark  
Finland  
France  
Germany  
Greece  
Ireland  
Italy  
Luxembourg  
Netherlands  
Portugal  
Spain  
Sweden  
United Kingdom

# Mapping offender-patient pathways in the different jurisdictions of the European Union

BRADLEY HILLIER<sup>1</sup>, CHRISTOPHER LAMBOURNE<sup>2</sup> AND  
 TINA GRAM LARSEN<sup>3</sup>, <sup>1</sup>Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London,

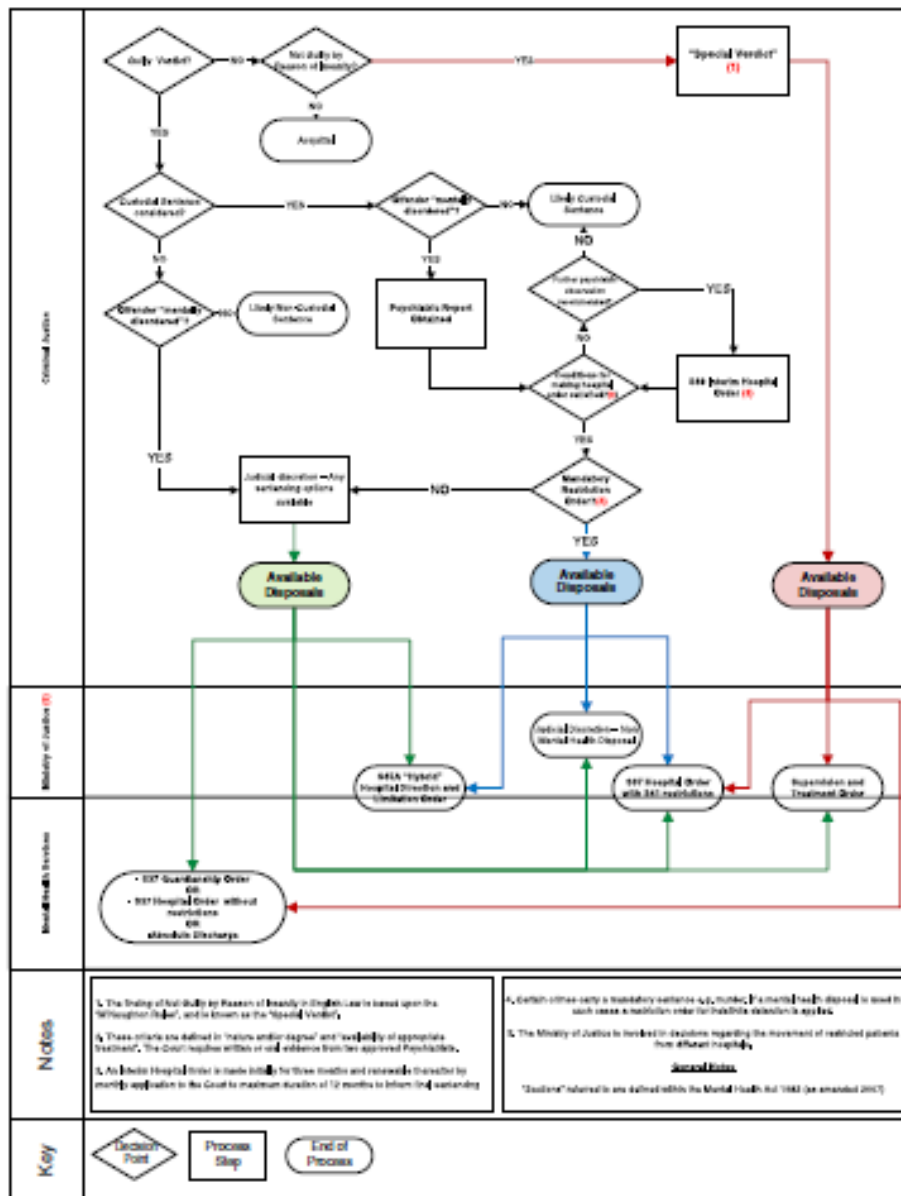


Figure 1: Forensic mental health disposals within England and Wales

# COST Action 2013 - 2017

**cost**  
EUROPEAN COOPERATION  
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

IS1302 - Towards an EU research framework on forensic psychiatric care

Home > Browse Actions > Towards an EU research framework on forensic psychiatric care

[www.lfpc-cost.eu](http://www.lfpc-cost.eu)

[Downloads](#) [Team](#)

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Belgium  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Finland  
France  
fYR Macedonia  
Germany  
Ireland  
Italy  
Latvia  
Lithuania  
Netherlands  
Poland  
Portugal  
Serbia  
Slovenia  
United Kingdom



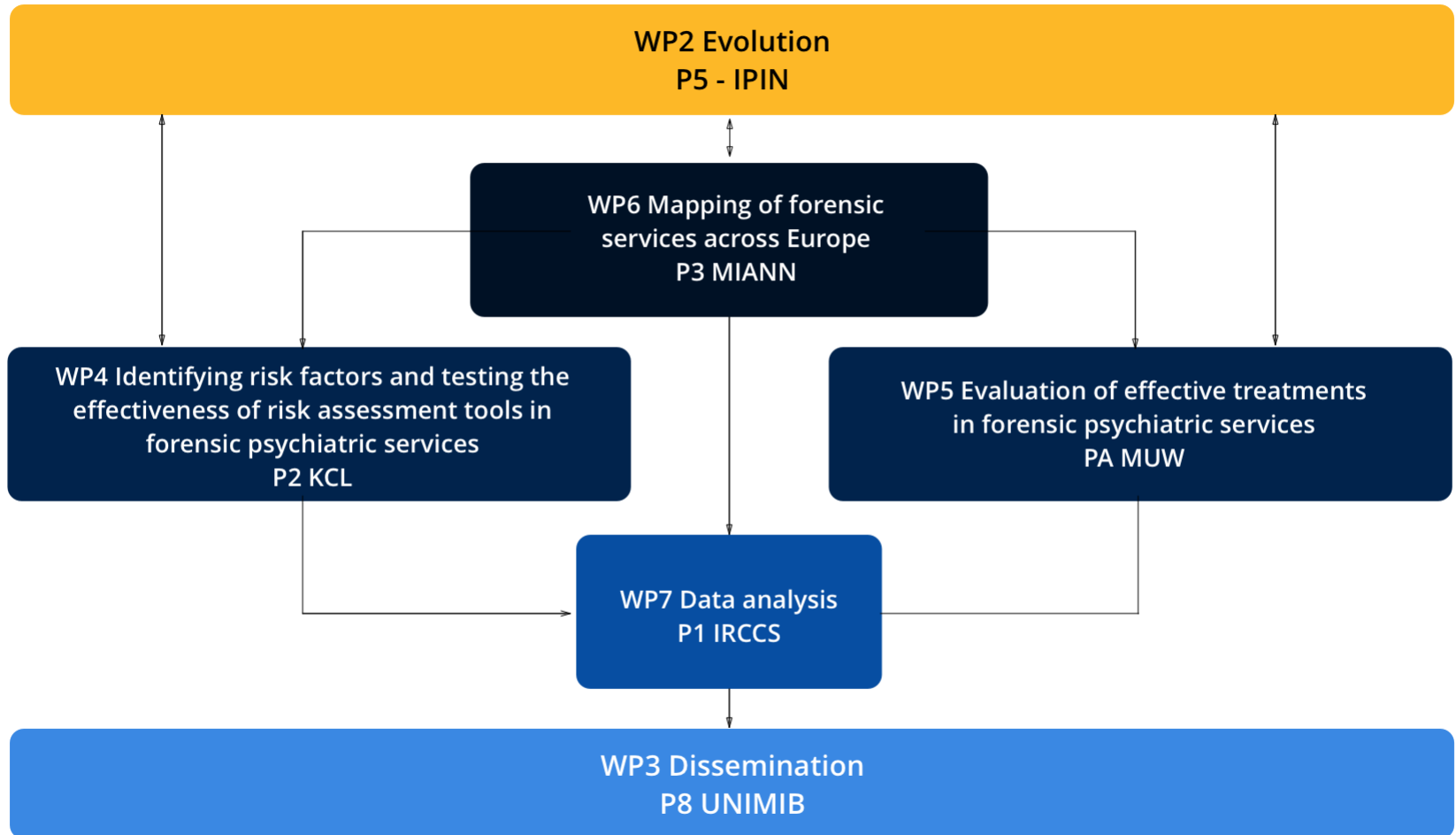


## Forensic mental health in Europe: some key figures

Jack Tomlin<sup>1</sup>  · Ilaria Lega<sup>2</sup> · Peter Braun<sup>3</sup> · Harry G. Kennedy<sup>4,5</sup> · Vicente Tort Herrando<sup>6</sup> · Ricardo Barroso<sup>7</sup> · Luca Castelletti<sup>8</sup> · Fiorino Mirabella<sup>9</sup> · Franco Scarpa<sup>10</sup> · Birgit Völlm<sup>1</sup>  · the experts of COST Action IS1302

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# EU VIORMED



# Different law traditions

- Roman law (= civil law)
  - Laws developed through legislative process
  - Prescriptive
  - Trials „inquisitorial“
  - Judge plays important role
  - Slow to change
- Common law (= case law)
  - Law developed by judges through decisions of courts
  - Precedent binds future decisions if case sufficiently similar
  - Trial “adversarial”
  - More flexible

# Law systems

## Common law

- Ireland
- E & W

## Mixed

- Denmark
- Finland
- Sweden

## Civil (Roman) law

- Austria
- Belgium
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Italy
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Portugal
- Spain

# Age of criminal responsibility

10

England & Wales

12

Andorra

Belgium

Hungary

Ireland

Netherlands

14

Albania

Austria

Bulgaria

Croatia

Cyprus

Estonia

Germany

Italy

Latvia

Malta

Romania

Spain

Slovakia

Slovenia

15

Czech Republic

Denmark

Finland

Norway

Sweden

16

Portugal

Variable

France

Greece

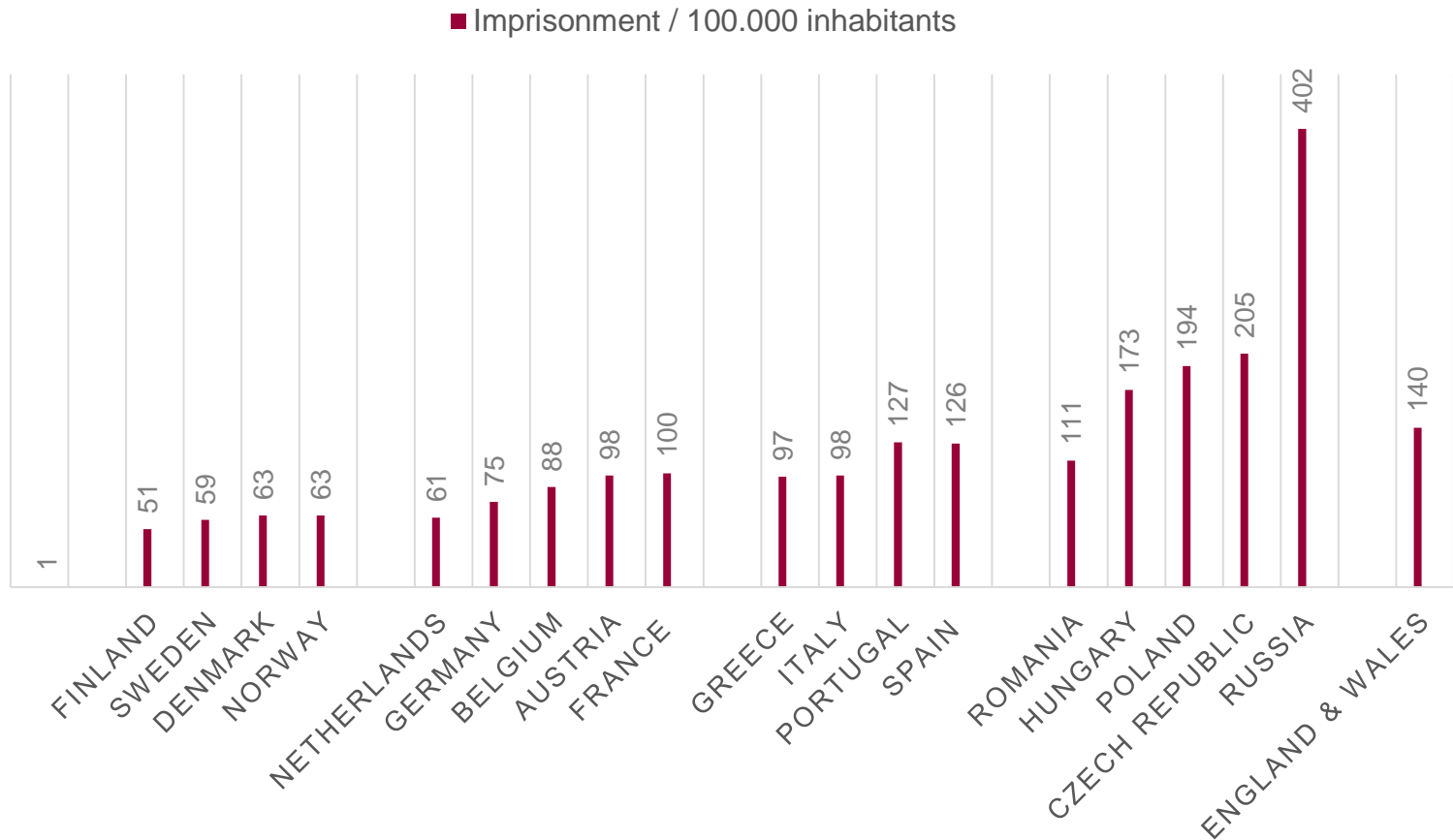
Lithuania

Luxembourg

Poland

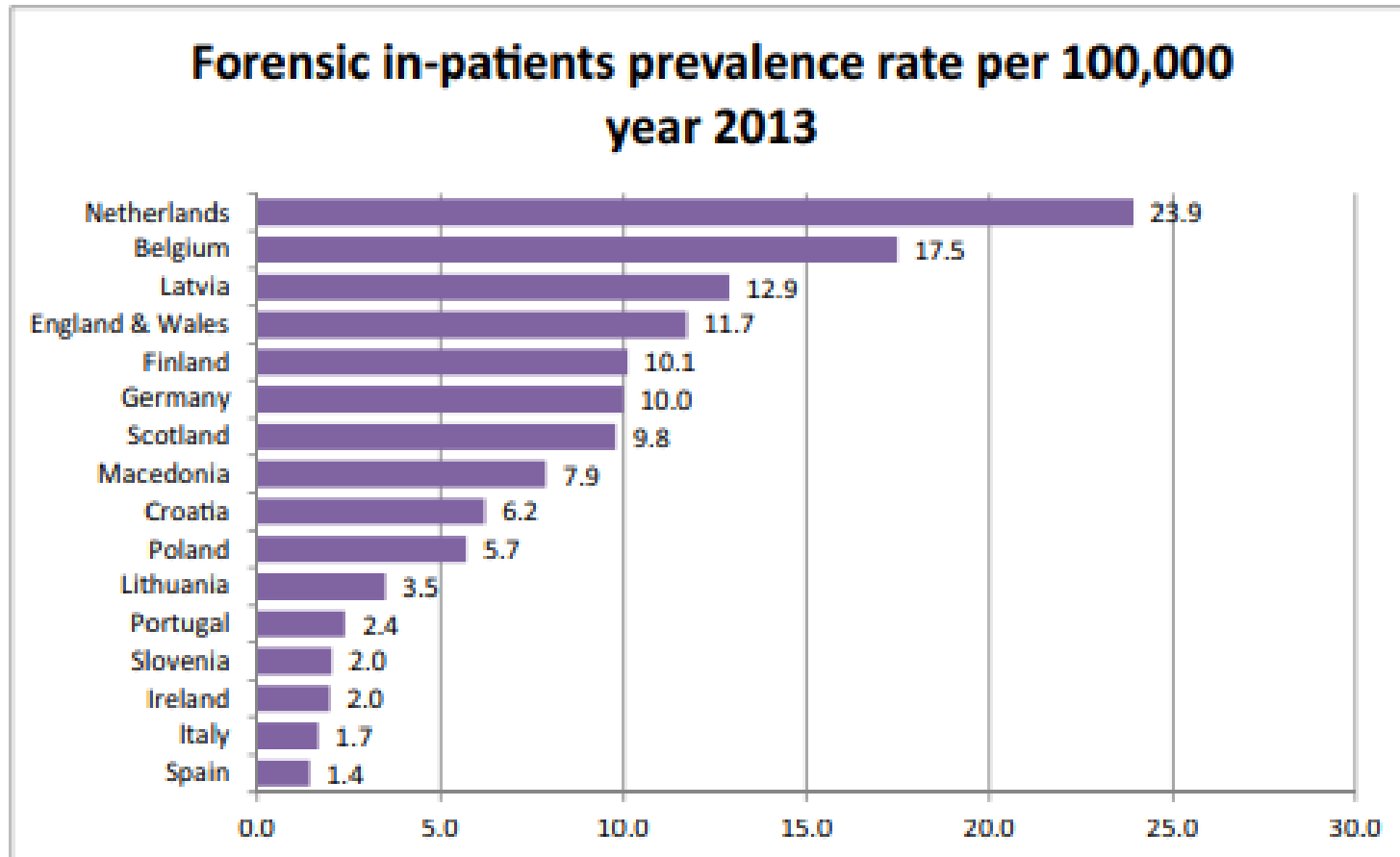


# Imprisonment



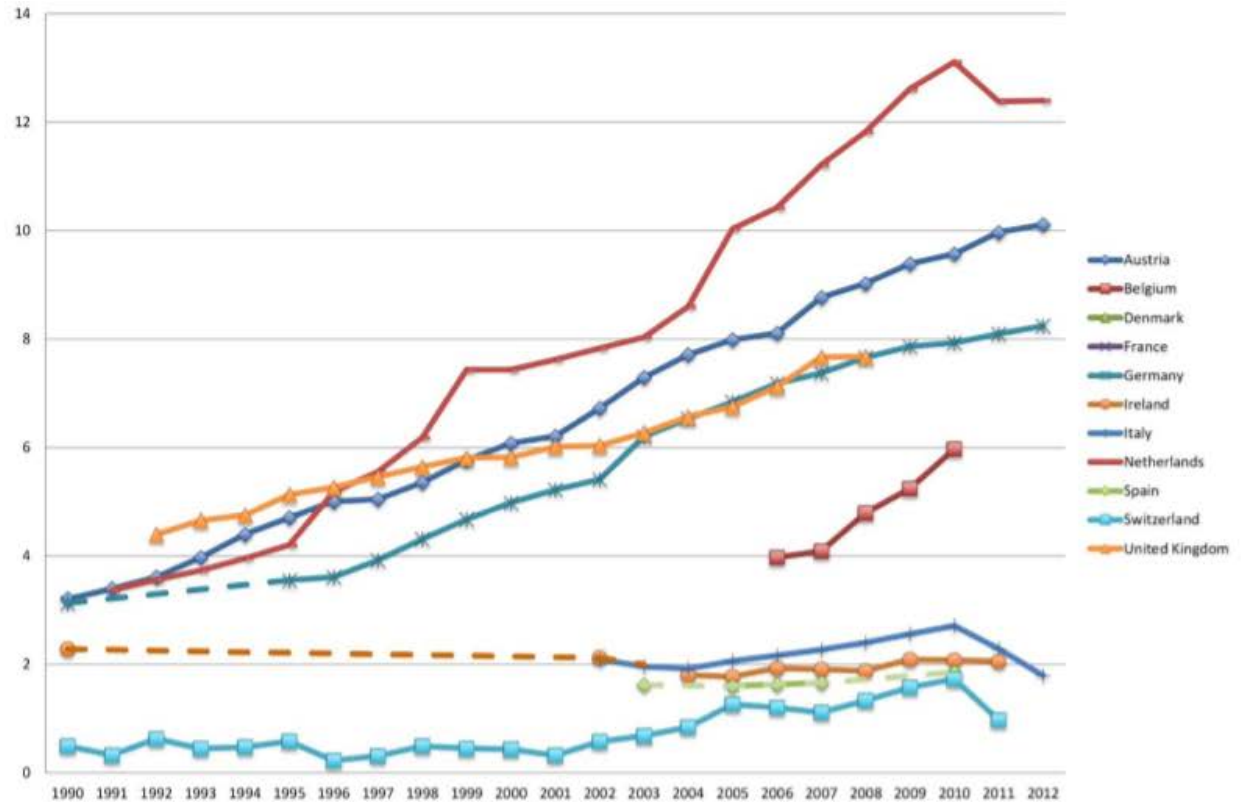
Source: World Prison Brief

# Bed numbers



# Bed numbers over time

**Figure 3** Forensic beds per 100 000 inhabitants from 1990 to 2012.

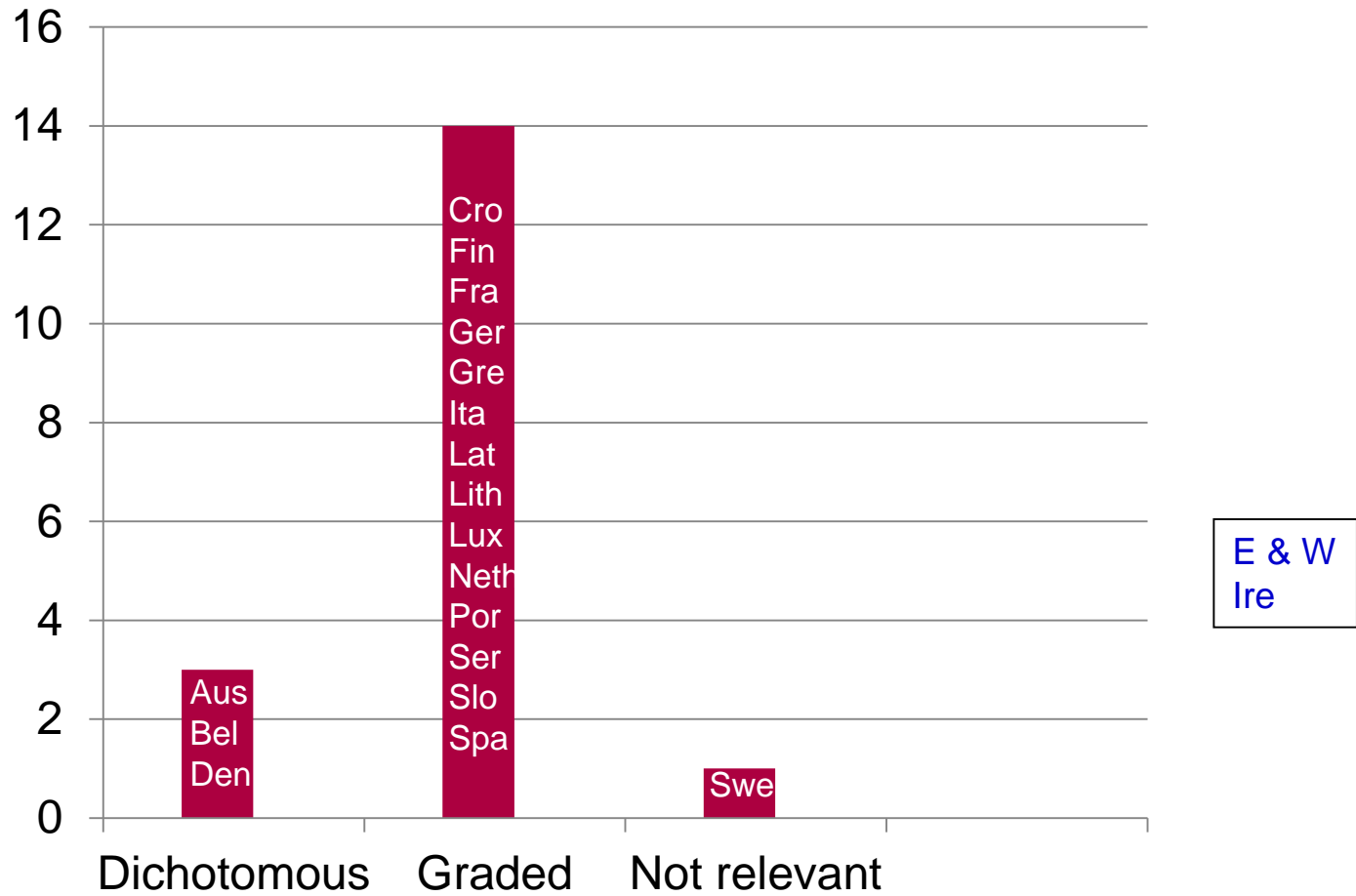


Chow & Priebe, 2016

# Criminal responsibility

- Criminal responsibility necessary for punishment
- For those who are not criminally responsible alternative measures have to be found
- They can be acquitted or admitted to hospital
- Countries differ in concept of criminal responsibility
- Countries differ in whether or not they require diminished or absent ('insanity') criminal responsibility for admission to forensic-psychiatric hospital

# Concepts of criminal responsibility





# Criminal responsibility and admission

## Diminished/Absent responsibility required

- Austria
- Belgium
- Croatia
- France
- Germany (not for SUDs)
- Greece
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- FYR Macedonia
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Spain
- (Sweden)

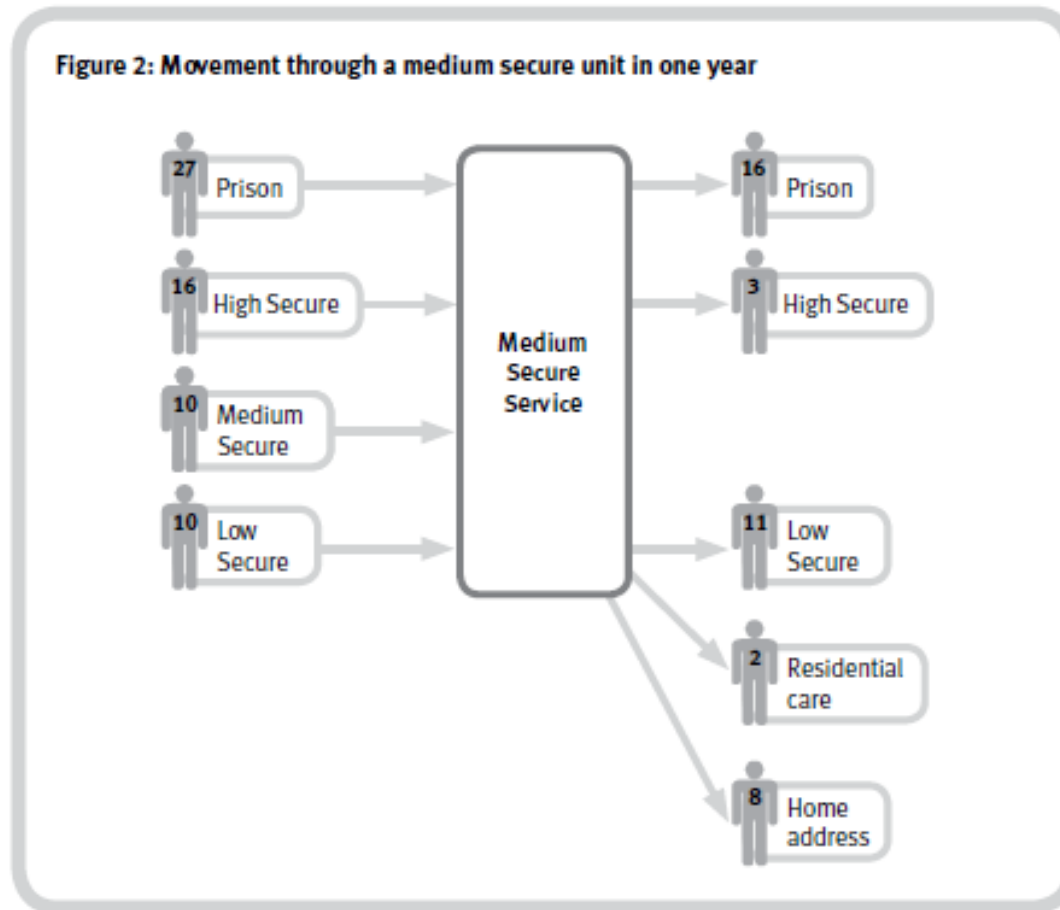
## Not required

- Denmark
- E & W
- Finland
- Ireland
- Luxembourg
- Portugal
- Serbia
- Slovenia
- Switzerland

# Pathways

- Exclusion of certain groups, i. e. those with substance use disorders only (e.g. UK)
- Special services/regulations for substance abuse disorders:
  - Austria, Belgium (out patients), Germany, Netherlands, Serbia
- Separate units for different levels of security (low, medium, high) unusual – usually provided within the same institution
- Differences in involvement of courts in leave and discharge decisions
- Follow up after discharge in about half the countries: years to lifelong

# Pathways



(Sainsbury Centre, 2012)

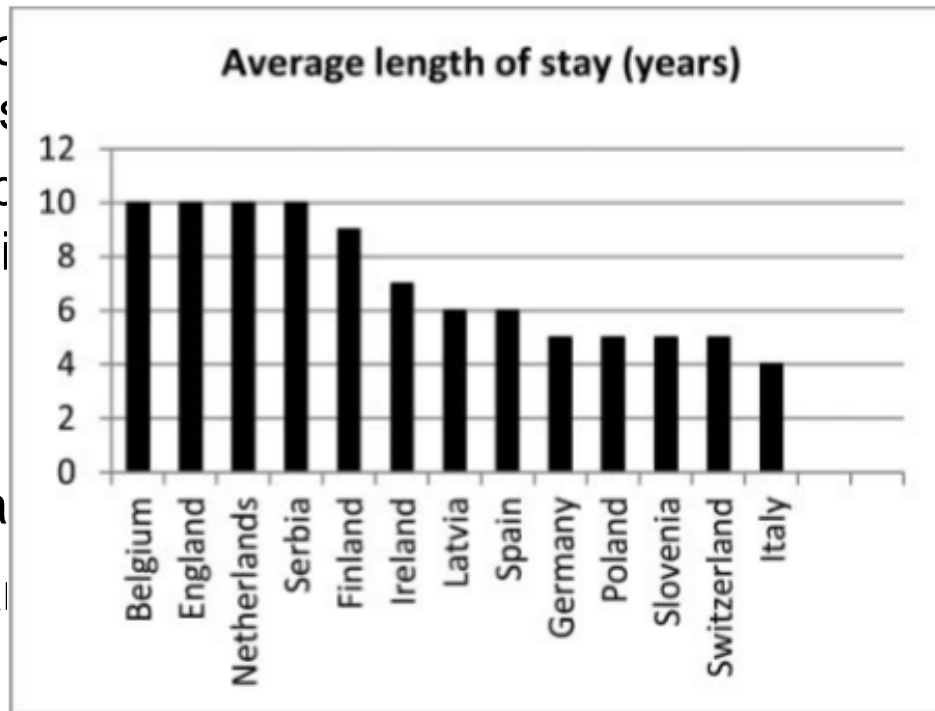
# Long-stay in forensic services

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following content:

- Browser Tab:** Long stay in 18 countries
- Address Bar:** file:///C:/Users/Birgit%20Voellm/AppData/Local/Packages/Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge\_8wekyb3d8bbwe/TempState/Downloads/Long%20stay%20in%2018%20countries.pdf
- Journal Logo:** INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH
- Journal Title:** International Journal of Forensic Mental Health
- Publisher:** Routledge Taylor & Francis Group
- ISSN:** 1499-9013 (Print) 1932-9903 (Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/ufmh20>
- Article Title:** Long-Term Forensic Mental Health Services: An Exploratory Comparison of 18 European Countries
- Authors:** Stephanie Sampson, Rachel Edworthy, Birgit Völlm & Erik Bulten
- Citation:** To cite this article: Stephanie Sampson, Rachel Edworthy, Birgit Völlm & Erik Bulten (2016): Long-Term Forensic Mental Health Services: An Exploratory Comparison of 18 European Countries, International Journal of Forensic Mental Health, DOI: [10.1080/14999013.2016.1221484](https://doi.org/10.1080/14999013.2016.1221484)
- Link:** To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14999013.2016.1221484>
- Actions:** View supplementary material, Published online: 11 Nov 2016, Submit your article to this journal

# Long-stay

- Only one country in the Netherlands
- LoS in hospital have been in
  - Croatia
  - Italy
  - Portugal
  - (Germany)



5 years, The  
ce would

# UK: Care Quality Commission

- Independent regulator of health and social care services
  - Register
  - Monitor, inspect and rate
- Set standards
- Inspections
  - Comprehensive
  - Focused (possibly unannounced)
- Patients can raise concerns directly
- Comprehensive inspections
  - Gather information (statistics, policies)
  - Speak to staff and patients
  - Observe care
  - Review notes
  - Includes “Experts by Experience”

# Care Quality Commission, ctd.

- Reports: Publicly available
- Ratings
  - Outstanding
  - Good
  - Requires improvement
  - Inadequate
- Ratings must be displayed by provider
- Consequences of inspections
  - Action plan
  - Further visits
  - Warning notices, special measures, fines, prosecution, closure of service



# Standards

- Person centred care
  - Tailored to individual need
- Dignity and respect
  - Privacy
  - Equal treatment
- Consent
- Safety
  - Competent staff
  - Suicide risk
- Safeguarding from abuse
  - Restrictive practise
- Food and drink
- Premises and equipment
- Complaints
- Good governance
  - Effective systems to check quality and safety
- Staffing
  - Enough competent staff
- Fit and proper staff
  - Recruitment procedures
  - Background checks
- Duty of candour
  - Open and transparent when things go wrong

# Reports

Provider:  
**Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS  
Foundation Trust** Requires improvement

See our reports in alternative formats:

- Community mental health services with learning disabilities or autism, published 24 May 2019: [Easy read report](#).
- Rampton Hospital, published 8 June 2018: [British Sign Language video](#).
- Rampton Hospital, published 15 June 2017: [British Sign Language video](#).

We are carrying out checks on locations registered by this provider. We will publish the reports when our checks are complete.

Overview **Inspection Summary** Reports Services Registration Info Surveys Contact

### Overview and CQC inspection ratings

Click for key ✓ ✕ ✕ | ☆ ● ● ● ● ● ●

<b>Overall Requires improvement</b>  Read overall	Safe	Requires improvement ●	<b>CQC inspections &amp; ratings of specific services</b>  Community mental health services with learning disabilities or autism <b>Good ●</b>  Acute wards for
	Effective	Good ●	
	Caring	Good ●	
	Responsive	Requires improvement ●	
	Well-led	Requires improvement ●	

# Comprehensiveness of inspection

## Our inspection team

The team that inspected this core service consisted of, two CQC inspection managers; four Mental Health Act Reviewers; 12 CQC inspectors; one CQC assistant inspector; the CQC National Professional Advisor for forensic mental health services; 19 specialist advisors

occupational therapists, psychologists and advisors with specific knowledge around safeguarding and information governance; two CQC analysts; and three experts by experience (an expert by experience is someone who has personal knowledge of using or supporting someone

## How we carried out this inspection

We inspect and regulate healthcare service providers in England. To get to the heart of patients' experiences of care and treatment, we ask the same five questions of all services: are they safe, effective, caring, responsive to people's needs and well led?

Where we have a legal duty to do so, we rate the quality of services against each key question as outstanding, good, requires improvement or inadequate.

Where necessary, we take action against registered service providers and registered managers who fail to comply with legal requirements, and help them to improve their services.

The inspection was announced to ensure that everyone we needed to speak to was available.

Before the inspection visit, we reviewed information we held about the service and requested information from the trust

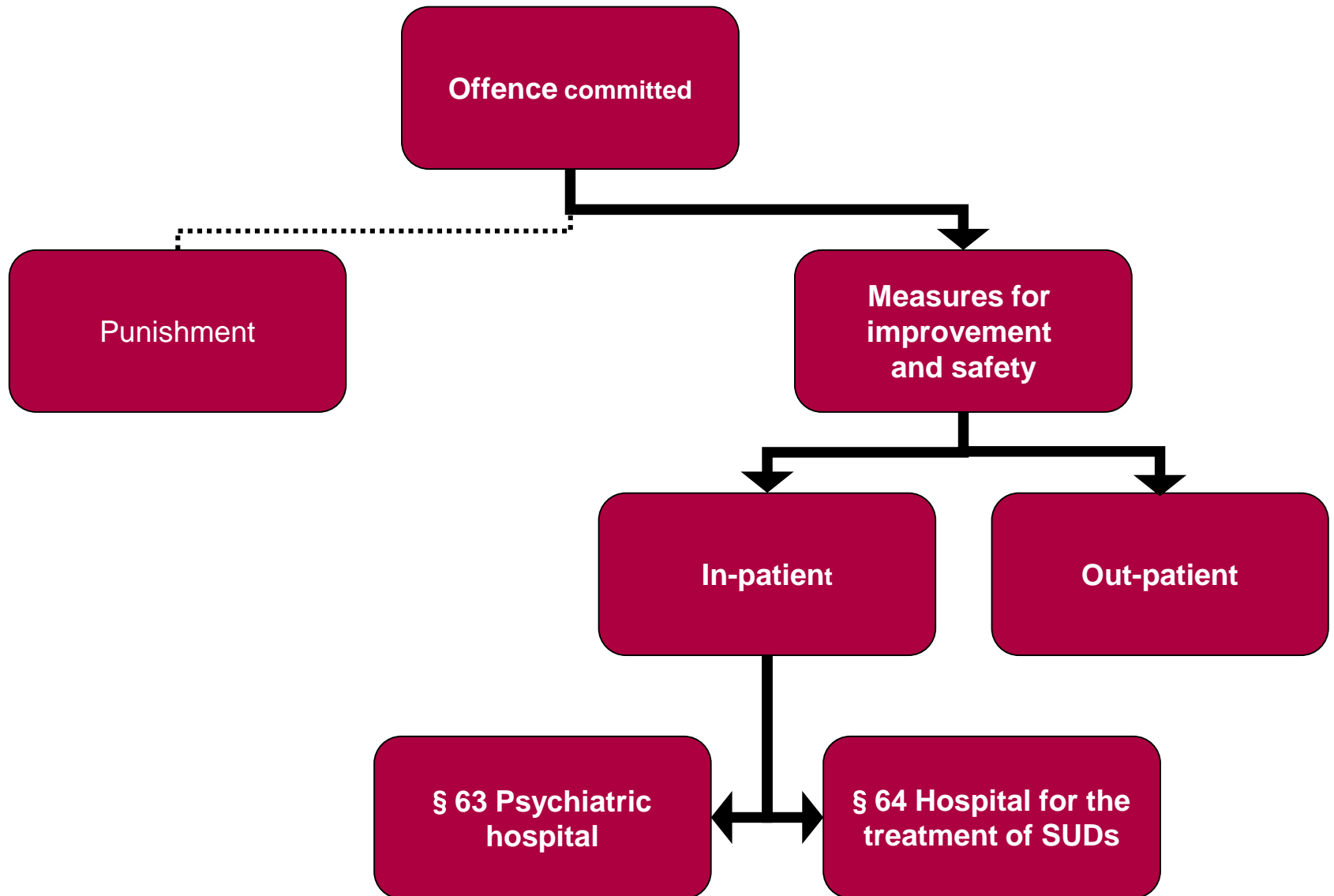
- Spoke with 126 individual staff members, including ward managers, deputy matrons and matrons, members of the security team and senior leadership team, nurses, nursing assistants, psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers and occupational therapists.
- Held 12 focus groups for all groups of staff.
- Spoke with 75 patients.
- Looked at 79 care and treatment records of patients.
- Reviewed medication management, including 106 medication administration charts for patients'.
- Attended and observed five multidisciplinary meetings and eight community meetings. We also observed a football discussion group, advocacy session on Grampian ward and saw the hospital band.

# Example of inpatient psychiatric care

Our rating of this service went down. We rated it as **inadequate** because:

- There were issues with bed management and availability of beds.
- Supervision did not always take place and neither did team meetings, therefore there was inconsistent evidence of learning from complaints and incidents.
- Staff did not always monitor patients' physical health adequately.
- Staff did not always carry out checks to see if emergency resuscitation equipment worked properly.
- We reviewed 36 care records. Five of these contained no record of a risk assessment and, in a further seven, the risk assessments were not fully developed or did not contain all the risk information required.
- Wards had restrictions in place. All patients had restricted access to outside space and there were various restrictions in relation to the use of crockery and cutlery that were not always individually risk assessed.
- There were not always sufficient staff numbers on the wards. There were 23% of shifts where staff fill rates fell below 90% between July and September 2018.
- There were some omissions in medication management... staff did not always record the date that they opened patients' medication ...
- Care plans were personalised but did not always demonstrate a holistic approach. In 15 of the 33 care plans we saw this was not the case.
- Patients had limited access to psychological therapies and activities.
- Staff did not always ensure the privacy of patients... We observed a male member of staff carrying out observations without telling female patients he was looking through the blinds. Also, on one ward we could clearly see patient information displayed on the patient information board, staff had not covered this when it was not in use.
- Patient community meetings did not always take place as planned on a weekly basis. Staff did not always record what patients had discussed at meetings or actions from them.
- Staff were not familiar with the trust's vision and values.

# Germany



# Two tier system

## §63 – Psychiatric hospital

- At time of offence diminished or absent responsibility
- Risk to commit further significant offences due to disorder
- Not time limited
- Reviewed annually
- Every 3 years external expert, after 6 years every 2
- Proportionality:
  - 6 / 10 years: degree of psychological or physical harm to the victim

## §64 – SUD hospital

- No requirement of reduced responsibility
- Disposition to consume alcohol or drugs
- Offence committed because of this
- Risk to commit further offences due to substance use
- Expected to benefit from treatment
- Usually parallel prison sentence
- Can move to prison if measure not successful
- Reviewed every 6 months
- Limited to two years but can be extended up to 2/3 prison sentence + 2 years

# The Netherlands

## TBS order

- Offence punishable with 4 years
- Diminished / absent responsibility
- Risk
- Renewed by court every 2 years, after 6 years external expertise

## Long-stay

- Treatment at 2 different hospitals
- For 6 years
- No significant risk reduction
- Long-stay order -> move to long-stay facility
- Focus on quality of life
- About 10-15% of forensic population
- Can move back to main stream care



# Italy

- 1978 “Basaglia law”: Closure of psychiatric hospitals, replacement by community mental health care
- 2008: Forensic services incorporated into National Health Service
- Concerns about the state of forensic hospitals (CPT)
- 2014: Law mandating the development of secure residential units for forensic patients (REMS)
- Closure of 6 forensic hospitals completed in 2017
- Currently 30 REMS with about 600 beds (about 1000 in old system)
- REMS
  - In community
  - Up to 20 beds
  - Focus on rehabilitation
  - High turn over

# Conclusion: Vive la différence ...

