

REGULATIONS OF THE THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY “LA TEMPESTA”

(for resident patients)

1. Community living rules

a) It is necessary that the patient, during their stay in the Community, refrain from:

- any form of physical violence;
- use of psychotropic substances;
- use of alcoholic substances;
- non-therapeutic use of medications;
- sexual relations with fellow residents (male and/or female);
- leaving the community premises without authorisation;
- damaging property and facilities; any damage must be repaired and/or paid for by the patient.

b) At any time during the residential stay, checks may be carried out by the staff together with the patient on personal belongings, in bedrooms and in all areas of the Community. Use of the premises and the conduct of activities are regulated by methods and schedules established in advance by the organisation of the Therapeutic Programme and by the educator on duty.

c) Clinical tests will be carried out to detect any use of narcotic or alcoholic substances by patients. Urine samples will be taken “under direct observation” by the nurse and the appointed staff member (male/female). Testing will be carried out periodically and, in any case, always at the end of the community programme; additionally, a hair toxicology test will be carried out occasionally and in any case at the end of the programme, also for the purposes of applying for renewal of a driving licence.

d) Each patient may have access to a limited amount of money to be spent on personal needs. This amount is managed by the Community Secretariat and will be accounted for monthly to the person concerned and to their family. The amount and the way it may be used are regulated as follows:

- €150.00 per month for ordinary expenses (shared leisure-time fund, tobacco, toiletries, books, newspapers, etc.);
- extraordinary expenses (medicines, co-payments/health fees, clothing, etc.) as needed.

e) Upon admission, resident patients must deposit with the Secretariat: mobile phones, medicines, money (the amount must be verified with a staff member), phone cards, credit cards; they must also check with a staff member the contents of backpacks, handbags and luggage. It is not advisable to keep items of particular value in the Community (watches, jewellery, etc.), as they may be exchanged and/or sold, creating a risk both for the patient who owns them and for their fellow residents.

2. External contacts are regulated as follows:

- Visits with designated family contacts take place once a month, on a Sunday afternoon (an annual calendar will be provided), from 14:00 to 19:00. On that occasion, the designated contacts spend the

afternoon in the Community with the resident and will speak with the Responsible Staff about the progress of the therapeutic programme;

- Receiving and sending correspondence is allowed only with designated family members, either through written letters or via email (managed by the Secretariat); for the first six months, telephone communications between the parties are not permitted;
- After one year of residence in the Community, the patient may request permission to visit designated family members, providing reasons and taking into account the opinion of the Management.

3. Removal from the facility

The Presidency (or a person delegated by it) has the authority to remove the patient from the community facility if the patient fails to comply with the Therapeutic Programme and the conditions signed in the therapeutic contract, including these regulations.

Such removal will be justified and communicated to the person concerned, to the designated family members of their family group, and to the referring SerD (Addiction Service). If, at the time of removal—planned or sudden—the patient does not take all of their belongings with them, the family contacts must collect them within 15 days, after which they will be donated to a charitable institution.

4. Right to request reasons and to express concerns

At any time, the resident patient has the possibility to request the reasons behind decisions taken by the Community team regarding them. There are designated individual and group spaces (meeting, assembly, interview with the Management) in which any criticism may be expressed, always in a civil and respectful manner. In addition, the patient may submit (anonymously) any written criticisms into a dedicated box, which will then be periodically reviewed by the Management and discussed together with the residents of the facility.

Special situations, exceptions, derogations and requests will be discussed with those concerned. The decision rests with the Presidency, after consulting the Therapeutic Community team.

Family members and the designated contacts of resident patients are informed of these regulations and undertake to comply with them.

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