

Coercive measures

explained to patients and their significant others

State of the art psychiatric care delivered with respect and safety

The Institute has a policy governing coercive measures. It is based on the Act respecting the governance of the health and social services system, as well as on ministerial guidelines on coercive measures.

Your clinical team is available to answer your questions.

For any problematic situation, you can address your concerns to the unit manager.

In the event of dissatisfaction, the local service quality and complaints commissioner is available at extension 1174.

Framework
on coercive
measures



Together to soothe, treat and ensure safety

Policy 1235-68-15

Framework for the application of coercive measures at the National Institute of Forensic Psychiatry Philippe-Pinel

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Why use coercive measures?

Coercive measures are used to prevent a person from hurting themselves or others, when all other strategies have failed.



The Institute advocates the following principles in its policy

The coercive measure **must** be:

- Used only as a security measure and continuously evaluated;
- Exceptional and considered as a last resort, after alternative measures have failed;
- The least restrictive possible;
- Applied with respect for the person's dignity and safety;
- Supervised and controlled by procedures;
- Evaluated and monitored by the establishment.

What is a coercive measure?

Force, seclusion, any mechanical means or chemical substance used to prevent self-injury or injury to others.

What is a restraint?

The use of physical intervention or mechanical means on a person to prevent or limit freedom of movement.

What is seclusion?

Confinement of a person in a location, for a specific period of time, from which the person cannot leave freely.

What contexts can coercive measures be used in?

Coercive measures can be applied in **unplanned** or **planned** intervention contexts.

What is an unplanned context for use of coercive measures?

An urgent, unforeseen situation in which a person is isolated, with or without the use of restraints, in order to stop behaviors that are dangerous to themselves or others.



What is a planned context for use of coercive measures?

These are measures (seclusion and restraint) planned in advance with the person and proposed on a temporary basis in their intervention plan.

A series of therapeutic measures are also proposed to correct the underlying cause of the at-risk behavior.

The aim is to provide a safe care environment for the person, the other patients and the clinical team members providing care.