



#### Serenity Integrated Mentoring (SIM)

What happened, and what we think the NHS should do.



## Easy Read



This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



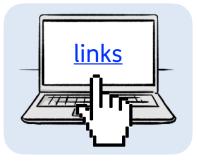
This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



<u>Blue and underlined</u> words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

# What is in this booklet

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## **About this report**



This is information about a report. The report is about a mental health service called **Serenity Integrated Mentoring (SIM) and similar schemes.** 



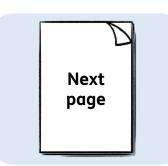
**Mental health** is the way you think, feel and behave. Having good mental health means being able to cope with your emotions.



**Serenity Integrated Mentoring (SIM)** tried to involve a police officer in mental health care.



The report was written by **Medact**. **Medact** is an organisation that works to make sure healthcare services are fair to everyone.



We explain more about SIM on the next page.

### Serenity Integrated Mentoring (SIM)



SIM hurt people who used emergency services for help with their mental health.

Patients who have had SIM said things like:



• Their personal information was not kept safe.





• Being in contact with a police officer made them feel like a **criminal.** 

Being a **criminal** means you have done something that is against the law. If you break the law you could be sent to prison.

• SIM made people's mental health worse, not better.



People who had SIM felt they were being punished for finding it hard to cope with their emotions.

Being punished is what happens when someone with more power says you have done something wrong.



Some health workers said they thought that SIM was not safe for patients.



Some of these health workers were punished for saying they felt SIM was not safe.

## What the NHS has not done



The NHS and organisations who started SIM have not said sorry.



The NHS has said that SIM should stop.



They have not shared how they will make sure that it stops.



This has left patients who had SIM feeling like they have not been listened to.



Medact's report says things like SIM are still happening. They are just being called something different now.

# What is happening now



Nobody is checking that health services have stopped SIM or things like SIM using different names.



This is why things like SIM are still happening. Medact is worried people are still being hurt.

#### What we think should happen



The police should not be part of mental health services.



Mental health services need to look after their patients better in the future.

NHS England should:



• Say how they will make sure that the police are removed from all mental health services.



• Say sorry to the patients who had SIM and who campaigned to stop SIM.



NHS England should also:

• Look at other projects like SIM to make sure the same dangerous things stop happening to people.

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