



# University Hospital Galway

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT  
GalwayEM.ie

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## Hospital Hoppers

(<https://galwayem.ie/guidelines/mental-health/hospital-hoppers>)

Category

[Mental Health \(https://galwayem.ie/guidelines/mental-health\)](https://galwayem.ie/guidelines/mental-health)

These patients normally complain of severe abdominal colic, chest pain, renal colic as well as other illnesses.

Other healthcare providers or authorities may warn of people going from hospital to hospital. In these cases an alert may have been circulated. Refer to the appropriate file or circular which gives names and information about known "hoppers".

Inform the duty Senior ED Doctor if you think that someone you are dealing with may be a hospital hopper.

Often they will be demanding opiate analgesia for their pain and if this is declined and something like NSAIDs offered instead they will immediately self discharge.

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