Appendix 2: Patient in possession of Illegal Drugs on Trust Premises (flow chart)

**Known or suspected possession of an illegal drug by an in-patient**
(includes legal highs and khat)

Report to the nurse in charge who will inform the patient the trust does not tolerate illegal drugs on its premises. Request the patient to hand over the illegal drug.

- **Patient agrees to hand over substance**
  - Nurse in charge with another member of staff will seal in an envelope (labelled) suspected illegal drug, record in the patients’ own section of the CD register and store in the CD cupboard. The register entry should include hospital number (no individual names), date, description of the substance, nurse and witness signature.
  - Inform the chief pharmacist or their deputy when the pharmacy is next open who will arrange its removal

- **Patient refuses to hand over suspected substance.** Inform the individual the police may be called.
  - Senior nurse to report to DSN or Clinical site co-ordinator. They will liaise with the security manager and patient’s consultant whether to inform the police. In most cases the police will be contacted unless a critical medical concern is raised.

**Suspected supply or dealing of illegal drug by an inpatient**

NEVER return the suspected substance to the individual