

## **Acute Care Psychiatric Hospital**

vs

## **Secure Mental Health Rehab Center**

**acute care psychiatric hospitals** - provide care for patients with acute mental illness who are typically a danger to themselves or others, or who have psychotic symptoms of such severity that out-patient treatment is not possible. The goal is to stabilize the patient sufficient to facilitate a transition to out-patient treatment. Length of stay is typically 2-10 days.

**secure mental health rehab centers (e.g., Crestwood in Fallbrook)** - designed for patients that have repeatedly relapsed after inpatient treatment, often because mental illness prevents adequate cooperation with out-patient treatment, and poor compliance with needed medication. These individuals are at high risk for homelessness, and for being victimized. They often are ultimately incarcerated for illness-related behaviors making them a public nuisance. In a secure mental health rehabilitation center - with stays of many months - they can maintain stability long enough to gain insight into their need for treatment, an understanding of their need for medication, and they can learn important coping skills that greatly improve their chances of making a successful transition back to their communities.

Provided by:

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