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## First Aid services to help patients with mental disorders

THE General Secretariat of Mental Health and Addiction Treatment (GSMHAT) and the Egyptian Ambulance Authority recently signed a protocol to move patients with psychiatric disorders into mental health hospitals nationwide by a well trained team.

The protocol, signed by Dr Hisham Rami, GSMHAT Secretary General, and Dr Ahmed al-Ansari, Head of Ambulance Authority.

Dr al-Ansari said that training courses would be organised for paramedics in participation with psychiatrists on how to deal with patients with psychological troubles. In addition, the protocol provides for an increase in ambulance units near mental health hospitals of which there are 18 throughout the country.

"A complete medical team will accompany the patient with psycho-



Dr Hisham Rami

logical troubles as well as a psychiatrist and a first aid vehicle will move him to the hospital," said Dr Rami.