The possibility for short leave is an important tool for forensic mental health institutions to promote a successful reintegration of their patients. However, instances of short leave without staff supervision might increase the risks for the general public in the sense that patients face more opportunities for new offenses. To manage these risks adequately, the first opportunity to leave the institution unsupervised is commonly preceded by a thorough risk assessment. Even though there is a broad range of established tools available to assess the risk of recidivism, we lack knowledge about specific predictive factors for the abuse of freedoms gained through short leave and consequently cannot be certain that the same tools are applicable in this context. At the Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony, we are looking at over 200 patients of ten different forensic mental health institutions and their behaviour in the year following their first permission to leave the institution without supervision. Based on their files, the patients are rated on several established risk assessment tools (VRAG-R, ORGS-3, Static 99-R, SVG-5, Risk Matrix). The predictive performance of these tools regarding misconduct during short leave will then be assessed using ROC-analyses. First results indicate a promising performance for some of the instruments (e.g., VRAG-R) but also remaining problems regarding the positive predictive power. Further findings on the performance of these tools as well as practical implications will be discussed.