



Capacity Assessment Pathway

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PARIS No		D.o.B	
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Capacity Assessment Guidance

The Mental Capacity Act (2005) states: All adults are assumed to have capacity.

Any assessment of capacity is time and decision specific. Standard tests of cognition e.g. Mini mental state examination (MMSE) do not assess capacity

The 2 stage test of capacity

1. Is there an impairment of or disturbance in the functioning of the persons mind or brain?

If so

2. Is the impairment or disturbance sufficient that the person lacks the capacity to make that particular decision?

To assess this, carry out and document below the following steps

What is the decision the individual is being asked to make?

What are the risks to the individual?

What are the benefits to the individual?

Specify what information or assessments are available regarding this decision

1. A person who is significant to the patient was consulted prior to this assessment	YES	NO
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Name:	Relationship:
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If no – state reason for not being consulted

2. Are there any issues to consider when deciding the time / place of this capacity assessment?
Detail

3. Are there significant barriers to communication? (Please tick appropriate)
Sight <input type="checkbox"/> Cognitive function <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing <input type="checkbox"/> Verbal communication <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Detail disability and actions taken to address issue(s)

Can the person:	Tick
Understand the information relevant to the decision?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retain that information in their mind long enough?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use or weigh that information as part of the process of making the decision?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communicate the decision by any means? (e.g. talking, using sign language, writing, nodding)	<input type="checkbox"/>

HAVE ALL 4 BOXES BEEN TICKED?



<u>Person has capacity for this decision only</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person makes informed treatment choice • This Choice must be respected even if unconventional or unwise • Record decision taken by person

<u>Person lacks capacity for this decision only</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision made by care team under the MCA principle of person's best interests. • Take into account any spiritual and cultural factors • Relatives or others can inform this process but cannot make the decision for the individual except when there is Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) registered with the Office of Public Guardian (OPG). • The individual should be consistently informed and supported by team members about this decision. • The individual should be helped as much as possible to participate in the decision making process. • Check if the person meets the criteria for referral to an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA).

Name of professional undertaking capacity assessment:	
Job title:	
Address:	
Signed:	Date: