



MENTAL CAPACITY ASSESSMENT

*Signposting document for
information and resources*

All adults are presumed to have sufficient capacity to decide on their own medical treatment and give consent, unless there's significant evidence to suggest otherwise.

Therefore, the burden of proof lays with the healthcare professional to establish whether the patient lacked the capacity to provide consent to treatment. This document will signpost you to information and resources relating to mental capacity and mental capacity assessment.

CLINICAL DESK OR DUTY OTL

Not quite sure how to complete a mental capacity assessment or find yourself in a complex situation? Contact your dispatcher to request clinical desk call back or phone your duty OTL to seek further advice.

THE ZONE

Search *Mental Capacity* on the ZONE (intranet) for an extremely informative webpage hosting a large variety of mental capacity resources, paperwork, policies, procedures and guidance documents.

JRCALC+

SECamb & JRCALC guidance can be found on the App by entering *Mental Capacity* in the search box.

e-LfH

A *Mental Capacity and Consent* e-module is available on E-Learning for Health. Visit <https://portal.e-lfh.org.uk/> to register for free.

DISCOVER

A Mental Capacity e-module is still available in the 2017/18 Key Skills page on Discover

PCR

You can find a quick reference guide to a mental capacity assessment on the underside of the paper PCR (RHS).

URGENT CARE HANDBOOK

A summary of the key principles relating to mental capacity and capacity assessment can be found in the Urgent Care Handbook accessible via the content locker on iPad.

“Before deciding a person lacks capacity, it's important to take steps to enable them to try to make the decision themselves.”

*~ NHS Mental capacity act guide:
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/social-care-and-support-guide/making-decisions-for-someone-else/mental-capacity-act/>*

***REMEMBER, ALWAYS
DOCUMENT YOUR
FINDINGS & UTILISE
SHARED DECISION
MAKING IF YOU ARE
UNSURE.***