



Key principles

- All adult individuals are presumed to have capacity to make decisions about their treatment and care.
- An individual can only be judged to lack capacity to make a specific decision at a specific time, and only after assessment in line with legal requirements.
- Do NOT assume that an individual lacks capacity to make a decision solely because of their age, disability, appearance, behaviour, medical condition (including mental illness), beliefs, their apparent inability to communicate, or because they choose an option that you consider unwise.

