Capacity Connections

When Should Capacity Be Assessed?

An assessment of Decision-Making Capacity may be necessary after an event or circumstance that is apparently caused by impaired decision-making which places the adult or others at risk of harm. The team or family may identify:

- The adult is making choices or behaves differently than they usually do, which puts themselves, or others, at risk
- There is conflict surrounding the decision. An adult normally agreeable to support in the home is now refusing to allow access to home care personnel.

Before beginning a Formal Capacity Interview the attending team should work together to complete the Capacity Assessment Process Worksheet. This will assist the team in identifying the current issues and problem-solving to determine the least intrusive form of support for the adult. Your team may determine a Formal Capacity Interview is unnecessary!

The Worksheet & Guidelines to assist the team in using this worksheet can be found on CompassionNET.

If your team encounters difficulty or has questions please contact the Mentoring Team Members at your site. If your site does not have a contact you can direct questions to:

Tara Kilkenny, OT
Capacity Assessment Support Service
780 735-2390

Visit CompassionNET > Care and Safety > Capacity Assessment > Capacity Assessment Resources for more information