When Decision-Making Ability is in Question
The attending team should follow the process outlined below prior to requesting a formal assessment of Decision-Making Capacity (DMC) (Policy No. VII-B-35 Assessment of Decision-Making Capacity)

- Possible Need for Assessment of Decision-Making Capacity (DMC)
  - Triggers identified and documented by attending team for questionable DMC

- Consult Social Worker
  - Assess social needs/concerns identified above
  - Capacity Assessment Process Worksheet (CAPW) placed at front of chart (form CH-1191)

- Medical Assessment
  - Assess reversible, temporary medical conditions that may impair DMC
  - Consult specialists as needed

- Documented Team Meeting
  - Determine if concern about DMC is still valid
  - CAPW (CH-1191) must be complete

- Reversible Condition
  - Physician Treats Condition
    - Re-evaluate if concerns still valid once medically stable

- No Reversible Condition
  - Pre-Assessment by Attending Team
    - As an interdisciplinary team, explore ways to solve problem through less intrusive measures; mobilize informal & formal resources
    - Complete functional/cognitive assessment as required
    - All team members begin to document relevant information on the CAPW (see CAPW guidelines)

- Unable to Solve Problem
  - Concern remains and risk to self/others remains high
  - Attending physician proceeds with Formal Capacity Interview (Capacity Interview Worksheet (CV-0527))
  - Complete paperwork as appropriate pending findings of interview

- Problem Solved with Less Intrusive Measures
  - Document on chart and CAPW, continue D/C Planning.
  - Do Not proceed with Formal Capacity Interview

The Misericordia Hospital Mentoring Team may be accessed at any time during this process if the attending team requires direction or support.

Consultation of Designated Capacity Assessor
If the attending physician is unable to complete the Formal Capacity Interview please fax the following to the Single Point of Contact at (780)735-2391:

1. Green Consult sheet with the reason & rationale for the consult.
2. Completed Capacity Assessment Process Worksheet

- Referral Incomplete
  - Unit will be notified by fax and missing information will be identified. Complete same and re-consult.

- Referral Complete
  - Unit will be notified by fax referral received & DCA will be notified and will respond to team with time frame for completion