

# Best Interests Factors to be Considered

If the outcome of the assessment indicates that the individual lacks capacity to make this particular decision at this time, consider the following before making a decision in the person's best interests:

Could the person have capacity in the future and can the decision wait till then?

**Should** an IMCA be instructed (i.e. is the person unbefriended: and lacking capacity, and does the decision involve either serious medical treatment **or** long term care and health moves (more than 28 days in hospital /8 weeks in a care home)?)

An IMCA **may** also be instructed to support someone who lacks capacity to make decisions concerning adult protection cases, (whether or not family, friends or others are involved). **or** care reviews, where there are no appropriate family or friends to represent the individual.

If yes, follow the guidance on referral to the IMCA service.

Date IMCA requested: .../.../..... Name of IMCA: .....

Has the individual made a <b>valid and applicable Advance Decision</b> that applies to the decision above? If yes, please provide details.	
Has the individual made any other statement, written or verbal, in relation to the decision above when they had capacity? If yes, please provide details.	
Who needs to be consulted in relation to this decision and what is their relationship to the person? (e.g. relative, carer, attorney – specify type)	
Specify the outcome of the consultation with each individual named above.	

## Details of 'Best Interests' Consultation

What are the issues which matter most to the person who lacks capacity?	
Record their past and present wishes, feelings and concerns in relation to this decision.	
What are the person's values and beliefs (e.g. religious, cultural, moral) in relation to this decision?	
Are there any other "relevant circumstances" that should be taken into account in this case?	

List the possible alternatives considered. Which is the 'least restrictive' option and Why?

Options	Best Interest Y/N	Reasons (Please outline the rationale and how the best interest decision has taken into consideration the 'least restrictive' option)

Please highlight any particular issues that should be addressed in future review(s).

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