

# When Does a Medication Need to be Given Covertly?



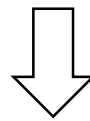
GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Aneurin Bevan  
University Health Board

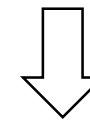
## Does the Resident Lack Capacity?

Undertake a capacity assessment to ascertain if they lack the understanding for the need for their medication

Yes



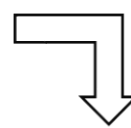
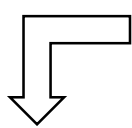
No



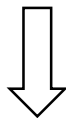
Yes

Is the Resident willing to take their medication?

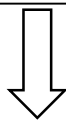
No



Undertake a MDT Best Interest meeting and document that though the resident lacks capacity to understand there is a clinical need for their medication to maintain their wellbeing

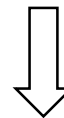


Do NOT administer Covertly

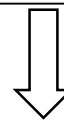


Continue to give medications as per administration policy

Undertake a MDT Best Interest meeting and document that though the resident lacks capacity to understand there is a clinical need for their medication to maintain their wellbeing



Complete a Covert Protocol and Administer medications as per Covert Policy



Give covertly as per the Covert Policy

Please note that any resident that has capacity can refuse their medication, but if they persist in refusing you should explore the reasons behind this.

It could be they find the medication difficult to swallow or unpalatable.

**Normally if medication is refused for more than 72 hours (3 days) you should inform the GP.**

**However for medication that requires tighter control, such as anticonvulsants, hypoglycaemics and Parkinson's medication, the GP should be informed after 24 hours**

**Note:** Covert administration is **NOT** required for a resident willing taking their medication, even if they lack capacity