



Let's talk about

Decision Making and Consent Policy

Easy Read English



Decision Making and Consent Policy



ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT
THIS DOCUMENT PROVIDES
INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR
RIGHTS TO MAKE DECISIONS
ABOUT YOUR LIFE.

DECISION MAKING IS ALL ABOUT
WHAT YOU WANT.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE
RESPECTED AND TREATED LIKE
OTHER PEOPLE.



IN THIS DOCUMENT YOU WILL
LEARN ABOUT:

- YOUR RIGHT TO MAKE
DECISIONS ABOUT YOUR LIFE
- THE MEANING OF CONSENT
- HOW WE HELP YOU TO MAKE
DECISIONS
- WHAT HAPPENS DURING
EMERGENCIES.



OUR JOB IS TO PROVIDE
SUPPORT IN A WAY THAT MAKES
YOU FEEL SAFE AND
COMFORTABLE.

IF SOMETHING MAKES YOU FEEL
UNSAFE OR UNCOMFORTABLE
YOU CAN SAY NOW.

Decision Making and Consent Policy



YOU HAVE CONTROL OVER YOUR LIFE. WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU TO MAKE DECISIONS. YOU CAN MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT:

- DAILY ACTIVITIES
- FOOD AND DRINK
- MONEY
- HOUSEHOLD TASKS
- HYGIENE (SUCH AS SHOWERING OR BRUSHING TEETH)
- WHAT HELP YOU RECEIVE FROM US
- MEDICAL VISITS AND TREATMENTS
- TAKING MEDICINE
- SHARING YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION.



WE WILL GIVE YOU AS MUCH TIME AS YOU NEED TO MAKE DECISIONS.

Consent



WHEN YOU AGREE THAT SOMETHING SHOULD TAKE PLACE, YOU ARE GIVING CONSENT.

BEFORE GIVING CONSENT YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND:

- WHAT WILL BE HAPPENING
- WHAT YOU WILL HAVE TO DO
- HOW THE ACTIVITY OR TREATMENT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER
- WHAT MIGHT GO WRONG.



YOU CAN MAKE THE DECISION ALL BY YOURSELF IF YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE.

YOU CAN ASK QUESTIONS IF YOU ARE UNSURE OR WANT MORE INFORMATION AT ANY TIME.

Withdrawing consent



WITHDRAWING CONSENT MEANS THAT YOU ARE CHANGING YOUR MIND.

IF YOU FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT SOMETHING THAT IS HAPPENING, YOU CAN WITHDRAW CONSENT AT ANY TIME.



The Law

WE ALWAYS FOLLOW THE RULES SET BY THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU KNOW YOUR RIGHTS.

IF YOU ARE 18 YEARS OR OLDER, YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN DECISIONS AND GIVE CONSENT. IF YOU ARE UNDER 18, YOU CAN MAKE SOME DECISIONS AS WELL. HOWEVER, YOUR PARENT OR GUARDIAN MAY NEED TO HELP YOU.

How to give consent



YOU CAN CHOOSE HOW YOU GIVE CONSENT AND TELL US YOUR DECISIONS. YOU CAN GIVE CONSENT BY:

- USING BODY LANGUAGE (SUCH AS POINTING OR MOVING YOUR HEAD)
- SIGNING A PIECE OF PAPER WITH A PEN
- SAYING 'YES' OR 'NO'
- SHOWING US A PICTURE
- SPELLING OUT YOUR ANSWER.



REMEMBER THAT THE WAY YOU LET US KNOW ABOUT YOUR DECISIONS IS UP TO YOU!

Substitute decision makers



SOMETIMES YOU MIGHT NEED HELP TO MAKE A DECISION. YOU CAN ASK A PERSON YOU TRUST AND THEY CAN GIVE YOU ADVICE. YOU CAN TALK TO:

- YOUR PARENTS OR GUARDIAN
- YOUR SUPPORT WORKER OR CARER
- YOUR CLOSE FRIENDS AND FAMILY.



A SUBSTITUTE DECISION MAKER MAY BE ASSIGNED IF:

YOU DO NOT HAVE ANYONE TO HELP YOU MAKE DECISIONS

YOU ARE HAVING TROUBLE MAKING YOUR OWN DECISIONS. A SUBSTITUTE DECISION MAKER CAN HELP MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS FOR YOU. THEIR JOB IS TO HELP YOU MAKE GOOD DECISIONS THAT WILL IMPROVE YOUR LIFE.

Emergency management



WE WILL ALWAYS HELP TO PROTECT YOU FROM HARM. IF YOU ARE IN AN EMERGENCY, WE MAY NOT ASK FOR CONSENT IF:

- YOU ARE TOO HURT TO GIVE CONSENT (FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU ARE NOT AWAKE)
- THE DOCTOR BELIEVES THE EMERGENCY TREATMENT WILL SAVE YOUR LIFE
- YOU HAVEN'T TOLD US THAT YOU DO NOT WANT THE TREATMENT
- THE PERSON DOING THE TREATMENT HAS LOOKED AT YOUR CARE PLANS.