

# The development and implementation of an online mental capacity assessment record form

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## Project method

I devised an electronic online mental capacity assessment record form for clinicians to utilise when completing mental capacity assessments on patients. The form was incorporated into the trust's patient information online storage system. Each time an assessment is completed an email notification is sent to the Safeguarding Adult Nurse which enables monitoring, review, audit and the collection of data for research and evidence. To enable dissemination, awareness and understanding face to face education and written information was provided to clinicians. All sections of the form have to be completed before it can be submitted. The previous hand-written paper copy of the form was not always completed fully or correctly, and was sometimes eligible. The online form has 'info' tabs in each section that contain relevant guidance for clinicians to access should they need further information about that part of the form. The form was piloted on a small number of wards for two months initially and then adapted accordingly

## Project results/evaluation

There was a huge increase in the amount of mental capacity assessments completed from the first day of implementation. Clinicians reported greater understanding of the process and stated that they were more likely to complete the process due to the simplicity and ease of completion. The form was welcomed by all clinicians on inception.

## Project area classification

Hospital care	x	Emergency care	x
GP care		Dementia	x
Social care		Learning disability	x
Voluntary sector		Other mental health	x
Financial services		Palliative care	x
Police		Advance planning, LPAs	
Legal		Commissioning	
Community health care		Training	
Nursing and care home	x	For professionals?	x
Acute care	x	For public and service users?	
Chronic care	x		