Supporting Use of Best Interest Planning Tool for people with Advanced Dementia (Decisions about End of Life Care)

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Project method

Gloucestershire's Best interest Decisions for End of Life Care (BI Planning Tool) was developed in 2013 for people without capacity to make decisions about end of life care and treatments. It was developed through a multi- agency team with Health and Social Care and was then promoted through the Gloucestershire's Mental Capacity Act Multi-Agency Policy, Procedure and Guidance, last updated 2014. The work built on the 'Practical Guidance for Best Interests- Decision Making and Care Planning at End of Life' by Christine Hutchinson and Julie Foster (May 2008). However it was found that professionals lack confidence and are unsure how to fully utilise the use of Best Interest Planning Tool so a new project has started around the county to promote, educate and support staff including GPs to promote person centred, appropriate and supportive end of life care without inappropriate hospital admissions or interventions to promote a good death.

Project results/evaluation

Sessions for all staff involved in end of life care have proved to be very helpful in giving professionals better understanding and greater confidence in applying MCA principles especially Best Interest in end of life care. The project has confirmed that although very able practitioners understand the MCA, the step of putting it into practice needs good practical support and a multi agency approach.

Project area classification

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