

# Mental Capacity Act Web-Based Assessment Tool (App)

Dr Karen Dodd, Co-Director of Services for People with Learning Disabilities / Consultant Clinical Psychologist; Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation

[DrKaren.Dodd@sabp.nhs.uk](mailto:DrKaren.Dodd@sabp.nhs.uk)

## Project method

SABP developed and piloted a web-based tool (App), which enables learning disability nurses and others to conduct MCA assessments more efficiently. It has been rolled out to 75 nurses and other staff, with the aim of:

- Increasing the number of assessments that we can demonstrate have been completed
- Reducing time investigating challenges around disputed decisions
- Reducing the time needed to write up assessments
- Creating a consistent, streamlined process to capture and audit MCA

The App guides nurses through a pathway to ensure they follow best practice when assessing whether a person has capacity to make an important decision about their care. It outputs a pdf report, which is attached to the patient's electronic care record, ending the need for transcription from pen and paper and reducing the time needed for administration.

It thereby supports better clinical decision-making and audit, promoting shared decision making between nurses and those using our services.

## Project results/evaluation

We are now formally evaluating the App to assess knowledge, confidence and satisfaction in conducting MCA assessments. This involves three surveys before and three surveys after using it with patients. Early indications are that staff are very receptive to this new tool, but data analysis is ongoing.

## Project area classification

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