

# Mental Capacity Act: Learning Lessons from Court of Protection cases

## Aim

Mental Capacity Act cases go to the Court of Protection either where there is conflict amongst the people involved, and/or where the issue is so serious or complicated that it cannot be resolved through meetings and negotiation. The rulings of the Court, and the reasons for those rulings, can be invaluable in helping health & social care practitioners deal with similar issues in their own practice. So this one-day session will look at a range of cases which have been considered by the Court of Protection, to see what lessons can be learnt for our everyday practice.

## Target Group

Anyone who works in a health and/or social care setting (eg hospitals, social work teams, residential or community care, GP surgeries etc). Participants should already be familiar with the Mental Capacity Act and the Code of Practice, because this is **not** an awareness session.

## Venue and timings

Various venues across England and Wales, 9.30am - 4.30pm

## Learning outcomes: by the end of this session participants should:

- Have considered a range of Mental Capacity Act cases which have been dealt with in the Court of Protection
- Have analysed what the CoP has said about various issues, including:
  - Best interests
  - Fluctuating capacity
  - Unwise decisions
  - The relevance of available resources to decision making
  - How much weight to give to the person's own wishes and feelings, if these are not clear
  - Life sustaining treatment
  - Other serious medical treatment
  - Restricting contact with family
- Have had an opportunity to raise their own difficult cases (as appropriate) for discussion and guidance within the group

## Training methods used

All of our training sessions are intended to be as interactive as possible. Participants are encouraged to ask questions, make comments and bring up their own issues. We use lots of different methods including quizzes, case studies, video clips and small group work as well as direct teaching. We want participants to leave the session saying "that was really enjoyable - and it was directly relevant to my working life."