

ACGME Competencies Project

Consent and Capacity

1/13/06

Learning Objectives

1. Recognize the elements of a valid informed consent
2. Describe the process of obtaining informed consent, including disclosing relevant information and answering questions
3. Recognize the components of decision-making capacity
4. Describe the process of assessing decision-making capacity
5. Understand the interaction between decision making capacity and the informed consent process
6. Demonstrate the process of assessing decision making capacity and obtaining informed consent

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Basic Format

There are 4 components of this module as outlined below. Components 1-3 are available online. Residents must complete all 4 components (reading material from 1 and 2 and satisfactorily demonstrating competence in 3 and 4) to have demonstrated basic competence.

- 1. Background Reading** (read before or after noon conference; available online)
 - Article: “Emergency Determination of Decision-Making Capacity. . . ”
 - Article: “Legal and Ethical Myths about Informed Consent”

- 2. Noon Conference** (or equivalent)
 - Pre-test Multiple-choice questions (5 min.)
 - Sharing of experiences where it was done well and not well (10-15 min.)
 - Critical elements to include
 - Common errors
 - Personal barriers
 - PowerPoint presentation of key elements (20 min.)
 - Brief history
 - Elements of adequate disclosure
 - Assessing decision-making capacity
 - Key points
 - Live Role-Play Demonstration (15 min.)
 - Scenario according to field
 - Senior resident to play patient
 - Assign people to give feedback on specific tasks
 - Stop at intervals to get group feedback

- 3. Field evaluation on performance with patients/families**
 - Each trainee should be observed assessing capacity and obtaining informed consent, and have the observer complete the evaluation form (can be a physician, nurse, social worker)
 - Pre-printed competency evaluation form available online to be printed as hard copy, or on My Evaluations if the residency program is using this format

- 4. Final competency evaluation (available upon request)**
 - Repeat of pre-test questions
 - Consent/capacity on standardized patient
 - Scenario altered according to field