

Is the person capable of consenting to the examination?

RAD-CHECK

- Retain and understand information
- Assess capacity to consent
- Delay if necessary
- Consider support options
- Have legal authority?
- Evaluate best interests
- Confirm with referrer
- Know when not to proceed

They must be able to:

- Understand and retain information about the procedure (for its duration)
- Weigh the risks and benefits
- Communicate their decision (verbally or non-verbally)

YES

NO

Would the person be capable of consenting to the examination with support?

Consider:

- Hospital passport (if present): gives guidance on support strategies
- Simple communication (e.g. short sentences, closed questions, clear language, extra time for the individual to process questions and responses)
- Aids (e.g. hearing aids, glasses, sign language, interpreter)

YES

NO

The person is capable of giving consent

OBTAIN informed consent and proceed with the medical imaging examination.

- The individual has the right to withdraw consent at any time
- A decision that appears eccentric or unwise does not mean the person lacks capacity

Can the examination be postponed or rescheduled?

YES

NO

Delay or reschedule the examination until the individual is capable of giving consent

Would the person be capable of giving consent at another time?

YES

NO

The person is not capable of consenting to THIS examination

Consider:

- Is there a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) for health and welfare who can decide on their behalf? (Note: carers and family cannot give legal consent unless they hold LPA, but their views on what the person would have wanted should be considered before proceeding with the examination)
- Is there a relevant advance decision or advance statement?

YES

NO

Proceed with the examination

- With consent obtained from the LPA AND/ OR
- If the examination is in line with any advanced decisions

Proceed without consent in the person's best interest:

Before doing so:

- Use options that minimise the person's physical and psychological distress e.g. adapted techniques/ modalities
- Avoid chemical or physical restraint, unless absolutely necessary and other options tried without success.
- If restraint is required, consider whether Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) apply and ensure these are addressed before proceeding
- Document the consent process, including efforts made to support the person in the Local Radiology System

Is the examination in the person's best interests?

That the examination is life-saving, and/or will prevent deterioration and/or will improve the person's condition (Confirm this with the referrer)

YES

NO

Do not proceed with the examination