

### Mental capacity assessment (MCA) for self-administration of medicines

Name of care home	
Name of resident	
Date of birth	

**Presume residents have capacity unless proved otherwise.**

#### The two-stage test

<b>STAGE 1</b>	Does the person have an impairment of, or a disturbance in the functioning of the mind or brain?	Yes		No	
<p>If the answer to the above question is yes, proceed to stage 2. If the answer is no then the person does not lack capacity.</p>					
<b>STAGE 2</b>	<p>Is the impairment or disturbance sufficient that the person lacks the capacity to make a particular decision?</p> <p><b>These questions should be answered in the context of self-administration of medicines.</b></p> <p>The MCA says that a person is unable to make their own decision if they cannot do one or more of the following four things:</p>				
Can the resident understand the information given to them to make a decision on self-administration of medication at this time?		Yes		No	
Can the resident retain the information long enough to be able to make the decision?		Yes		No	
Can the resident weigh up or use the information available to make the decision?		Yes		No	
Can the resident communicate their decision (by talking, sign language, simple muscle movements such as blinking an eye or squeezing a hand)?		Yes		No	
<p>A person is unable to make a decision about self-administration of their medicines at this time if the answer to any of the questions above is <b>NO</b>.</p> <p><b>Re-assess capacity if there are any changes in the resident's medical condition.</b></p>					
Name of individual undertaking assessment					
Designation					
Date of assessment			Review date		

**Residents with reduced mental capacity should continue to have the opportunity to make informed decisions about those aspects of their care and personal lives for which they retain capacity.**

Providers should use this guidance in conjunction with Medicine Patient Information Leaflets, NICE Guidance 'Managing Medicines in Care Homes' SC1 and should check the CQC website for recent updates. Prepared by Care Home Support, Medicines Optimisation Team, NHS Coventry & Warwickshire. Adapted from the original document by PrescQIPP [www.prescqipp.info](http://www.prescqipp.info) Updated by Care Home Support, July 2022.