

Assessing mental capacity in case of medical after care: Murat

Murat is a 75 year-old man, with a severe and enduring mental health condition which sometimes means he neglects his personal care. He had no major physical medical problems, however; he was admitted to hospital as he needed a knee replacement. He was informed following the surgery that he needed regular repositioning to prevent skin damage. Murat refused to let the nursing staff help him as he said he could do it himself.

The ward were concerned that Murat could develop a pressure sore due to the increased risk of self-neglect. The ward team spoke to him about why it was important to reposition himself in bed and discussed what would happen if he didn't move regularly. Murat was able to show that he understood the risks and the benefits of repositioning and articulated this back to the ward team.

Outcome: The ward team checked daily that Murat in relation to his care plan; ensuring that he was able to reposition, which Murat demonstrated he was willing and able to do, as he was recorded as having mental capacity.