

### **Assessing mental capacity in relation to taking medicine: Raymond**

Raymond has advanced dementia and lives at home with his daughter. He has been admitted with a suspected UTI, which is making him more confused.

Raymond requires treatment with anti-biotics but he is refusing to take them. Staff did not think he had mental capacity to understand why he needed to take the anti-biotics, so a mental capacity assessment was completed. Raymond was recorded as being unable to retain, weigh-up the information and communicate about his medication and so did not have mental capacity to understand why he needed this medicine.

**Outcome:** The ward team contacted his daughter, who agreed to come to the hospital every day to support with giving her father medication. The ward doctor rationalised the medication so that it only had to be given once a day, which enabled his daughter to visit in the evening so that Raymond could take his medication from his daughter who he recognised and felt comfortable being supported by.