

# Consent and Capacity

## Did you know?

Health practitioners are required to get an informed consent before providing any treatment to a patient.

## What's informed consent?

It is specific to a particular treatment and must include information about:

- the patient's current health condition.
- the risks, benefits, side effects of any proposed treatments and any alternatives.
- what would happen if the treatments offered were refused.



## What's capacity?

Mental capacity is determined by a health practitioner and can be different for each type of decision. It's NOT a diagnosis and it can change over time.

If a patient does not have the capacity to give consent, the healthcare team must turn to the patient's Substitute Decision Maker (SDM) to make healthcare decisions on their behalf.

**Learn more at:**

[speakupontario.ca](http://speakupontario.ca)