



Initial Screening Tool

Title of policy/service/function/procedure/ programme/ or strategy being assessed:
Policy for Consent to Examination and Treatment

Is it new or revised

(If revised, please attach a copy of the original Equality Impact Assessment.)

Senior Manager Responsible David WHITMORE
Department Medical Directorate
Section

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Team

Name	Department	Role
Clive Palmer	Patient Experiences Department	Principal Author / Reviewer
David Whitmore	Medical Directorate	Principal Author / Reviewer
Paul Gantley	Department of Health Policy Lead for Capacity / Consent	Adviser
Henry Dom	Operational Paramedic	Adviser
Deborah Chaffe	Medical Directorate / Clinical Support Desk	Adviser
Mark Faulkner	Medical Directorate	Adviser

Date of screening Between August 2009 and April 2010 as the policy was revised and the LA5 revised

Title: Equality Impact Assessment Guidance and Form	Version: 3.0
Date: 16/03/2010	Owner: Equality and Inclusion



Please summaries below the aims and objectives of this policy/service/function etc. including any intended outcomes.

The Department of Health has issued a range of guidance documents on consent, and these should be consulted for details of the law and good practice requirements on consent. This policy sets out the standards and procedures in the LAS which aim to ensure that health professionals are able to comply with the guidance. While this document is primarily concerned with healthcare, social care colleagues should also be aware of their obligations to obtain consent before providing certain forms of social care, such as those that involve touching the patient or client.

This policy is for all staff who provide care to patients, irrespective of the route by which they came into contact with them.

- Part A provides, in the form of Frequently Asked Question a summary of the key points on consent as applicable to ambulance staff.
- Part B contains guidance for ambulance staff
- Part C contains the full consent policy

This policy defines the standards and procedures that LAS staff should follow when gaining patient consent for examination and treatment. The content of this policy applies to all staff who provide care to patients, irrespective of the route by which they come into contact with them. This policy does not address patient consent in relation to media.

Objectives

1. To set out and explain the requirements for seeking consent for examination and treatment of a patient.
2. To provide comprehensive information on gaining consent to examination or treatment.
3. To provide guidance for staff in specific circumstances.

To ensure staff realise the importance of decisions regarding consent that must be documented using the appropriate LAS forms.

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Please state below who is intended to benefit from this policy/service/function etc. and in what way.

This policy is for the guidance and use of LAS staff when dealing with all patients. It will benefit patients and other agencies by the correct application of the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

Please state in the table below whether the policy/service/function etc. could have any potential impact on any of the equality strand groups, whether service users, staff or other stakeholders

Equality Strand Group	Is there likely to be a positive or neutral impact in regard to:	If the impact is adverse, can this be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for an equality strand group or for another reason?
Age	Neutral	
Disability	Neutral	
Gender	Neutral	
Race	Neutral	
Religion or Belief	Neutral	
Sexual Orientation	Neutral	

Please provide and summarise below any relevant evidence for your declaration above – this could include for example the results of specific consultations, complaints or compliments, customer satisfaction or other surveys, service monitoring and take-up, comments from stakeholders and demographic data.

This policy has been revised over a period of several months with input from the Department of Health Lead for Consent / Capacity. It was reviewed by Henry Dom who consulted outside the LAS amongst his contacts within the London Mental Health arena. Clive Palmer consulted with colleagues at PCT and Local Council level. David Whitmore consulted with other colleagues across the UK Ambulance Services to see how they were tackling the recording of consent / capacity. DH are minded to use our Policy as an exemplar for other Amb Services.

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Are there any gaps in the evidence you have which make it difficult for you to determine whether there would be an adverse impact?

No ✓

If yes, please state below how you intend to acquire this evidence and your timescales for doing so.

If you have identified a positive or negative potential impact for any equality strand group, which is not legal or justifiable, then you must complete a full Equality Impact Assessment. Please insert below any issues you have identified/recommendations for the full Equality Impact Assessment.

If you have only identified a neutral or positive impact on any equality strand group then no further action is required, other than having your Director sign off this form, a copy stored on the shared drive and sent to Communications for publication on the Trust's website.

Name of Director: Fionna Moore

Signature:

Date: 14/04/10

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