

# Best Interest Decision

## Julie visits the doctor

Easy Read Information for people with a learning disability



Julie is 55 years old and she has a learning disability. Julie has been very tired. She is pale and has not been feeling well for 2 months. Julie is drinking lots of soft drinks and always feels thirsty. Julie's sister, Olive, arranges for Julie to visit the doctor.



Julie and Olive visit the doctor. The doctor is worried. He thinks that Julie might have diabetes. Diabetes can be a serious illness. Diabetes can lead to other health problems. It can be treated with medicine and a special diet.



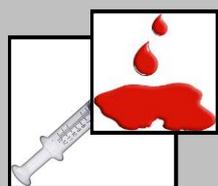
Nurses can do tests to check for diabetes. The test involves taking blood from a person's arm with a needle.



The doctor explains all the information about the tests to Julie. Julie does not seem to understand.



The doctor talks to Julie's social worker and community learning disability nurse. He asks them to explain the information to Julie and check if she understands.



The Community Nurse speaks to the Speech and Language Therapist who gets some pictures and photographs about blood tests and diabetes.



The social worker and community nurse visit Julie at home. They talk to her about the tests using the pictures and photographs. Julie still does not understand the information about the tests.



Because Julie does not understand, she cannot make this decision for herself. She does not have capacity. All the people who know Julie well meet to decide if Julie needs the blood tests. This is called a best interests decision.



People at the meeting think about Julie's health and what the doctor thinks Julie needs. They think about what Julie thinks about the tests and what Julie's sister thinks about the tests.



Everyone agrees that Julie needs the test. Olive agrees to talk to Julie about the tests.



Julie gets the test done and finds out she does have diabetes. The test means that the doctor knows the right medicine to give Julie.



Julie takes the medicine and starts to feel much better.