

Independent Mental Capacity Advocate

When should I request an IMCA?



Is the person 16 years or older?	If Yes ↓
Does the person have a condition which is affecting their ability to make decisions?	If Yes ↓
Does the person lack capacity to make one of the decisions below? Will professionals be making the decision for the person in their best interest?	

serious medical treatment	change of accommodation	care /accommodation reviews
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If Yes ↓

When making a decision for someone in their best interest, professional must consult others who are involved in the care and treatment of the person.

Is there anyone (family or friend) other than paid workers who professionals can consult?

Is the person willing to be consulted?

Is the person appropriate to consult?

Professional judgement should be used to decide if someone is appropriate to consult. The person disagreeing with professional advice does not mean they are inappropriate to consult. If unsure, discuss with IMCA service.

How to protect themselves during or following a safeguarding investigation.

An IMCA **SHOULD** be requested as part of the safeguarding process even if the person has friends and family supporting them. The IMCA will ensure the person's wishes and views are represented in meetings.

For decisions about serious medical treatment	For decisions about change of accommodation	For care reviews (routine or urgent)
MUST request IMCA	MUST request IMCA	SHOULD request IMCA

If you would like to discuss whether a person is eligible for the IMCA, please contact:

Plymouth Highbury Trust on 01752 753718