

Learning from Reviews: Adult AD

**QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

- Reflect on the findings and discuss the implications for your service or practice.
- Consider how and in what circumstances the provisions of the Mental Health Act and Mental Capacity Act are used when it appears somebody is refusing treatment.
- When assessing capacity consider if the person can execute the decision (executive capacity). You shouldn't assume capacity if the person's behaviour or circumstances raise doubt as to whether they have the capacity to make the decision
- Visit our website resource hub: [www.manchestersafeguardingpartnership.co.uk](http://www.manchestersafeguardingpartnership.co.uk) for more information

**BACKGROUND**

This briefing summarises the key learning from the SAR. Adult AD's quality of life went into a steep decline after sustaining brain damage following a road accident in 2001. AD could no longer manage independently and moved to supported living. AD regularly declined the offer of care and support. Adult AD was often seen by services as challenging to work with. Following a rapid decline in health, AD was admitted to hospital where it was necessary for a leg to be amputated.

**SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS**

When Adult AD moved into supported living, staff reported that they found AD to be verbally challenging and would decline the support on offer. There were concerns about self-neglect and about AD's mental capacity to manage their health and wellbeing. There were significant delays in assessing this. Once this was done there was some confusion as to whether AD's refusal to accept was an issue of mental capacity to make that decision or one of mental illness.

**WHAT TO DO**

- This case challenged practitioner assumptions in a number of ways - ensure wide dissemination of learning using the learning pack on the MSP website.
- Practitioners to reflect on their knowledge of the dynamics of self-neglect and what actions agencies would need to take.

**WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE?**

All agencies to ensure that practitioners understand how self-neglect and issues of mental capacity assessment relate to Manchester Safeguarding Partnership procedures .

This 7 minute briefing can be found at [www.manchestersafeguardingpartnership.co.uk/resource/safeguarding-adult-reviews/](http://www.manchestersafeguardingpartnership.co.uk/resource/safeguarding-adult-reviews/)

**WHY WAS THE SAR CARRIED OUT?**

There must be a review of an adult with needs for care and support if there is reasonable cause for concern about how the SAB, members of it, or other persons with relevant functions worked together to safeguard the adult and (*Condition 2*) the adult is still alive and the SAB knows or suspects that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect. **Section 44 of the Care Act 2014 – criteria for a SAR**

**FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

- MSP should require partners to demonstrate that their staff can identify and address those instances where it is believed the person or people concerned have suffered self-neglect.
- MSP should gain assurance that there is a shared understanding among partner agencies and their staff about when to formally assess mental capacity including possible deprivation of liberty and that the interface between Mental Health Act and Mental Capacity Act are understood.
- MSP should gain assurance that staff from partner agencies understand how to escalate concerns and when to call multi-agency meetings to ensure more integrated support and care.



More information can be found on our website at [www.manchestersafeguardingpartnership.co.uk](http://www.manchestersafeguardingpartnership.co.uk)

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