

Capacity Assessment – Candidate Instructions

Capacity assessment station (10 minutes):

You are an FY2 working in the GP Practice. Jenny Kingston, 15, has come in to ask for contraception. You have asked to assess whether she has capacity to make this decision.

You will be expected to:

0- 8 minutes:

- Speak to Jenny, explore why she has expressed this decision and assess whether she has capacity to make the decision in question. Please focus of capacity assessment rather than history taking.

8 -10 minutes:

- Answer questions from the examiner

Capacity Assessment – Patient Instructions

- You are Jenny Kingston, aged 15
- You have come in to ask about being given contraception so that you feel safe about having intercourse with your boyfriend, also 15.
- 4AT score of zero

- You understand that the legal age for intercourse is 16.
- You can't be persuaded to involve your parents in this decision or tell them anything.
- You will have intercourse even if contraception is not provided.
- Not being able to be intimate with your boyfriend will cause significant emotional mental distress.

Capacity Assessment – Examiner Marksheet

Step	Tick
1. Introduces themselves + clarifies patient details	
2. Conducts an appropriate, short, mental state assessment, for example 4AT	
3. Ascertains the patient's understanding of why they are in hospital and what has happened so far	
4. Opens the assessment up by asking about the intervention in question and the patient's stance on it	
5. Discusses the benefits/drawbacks of the intervention AND refusing the intervention	
6. Chunks and checks information, reclarifying if needed	
7. Allows sufficient time for information processing	
8. Asks patient to repeat a summary of the conversation in their own words	
9. Obtains the patient's final decision	
10. Ascertains the reasoning behind the decision, and makes some attempt to convince the patient if the decision is not in their best interests	
11. Thanks the patient for their time, regardless of the decision made, professional and patient friendly manner maintained throughout the conversation. Neutral position maintained throughout, no jargon.	

Examiner Question 1: Does this patient have capacity or not, explain?

Yes- Meets the Fraser Guidelines and is Gillick Competent

Examiner Question 2: This patient has capacity, how would you proceed?

Offer appropriate contraception

Signpost and safety net

Offer psychological support

Examiner Question 3: How would you proceed as an FY1 if this patient admitted to intercourse with a 17-year-old

Report to the practice child safeguarding lead

Global Impression:

Patient Impression/comments:

- Excellent
- Good
- Pass
- Borderline
- Fail