

Legal Aspects of Dementia

Mental Capacity and Dementia case studies

Case study 1

Mrs M lives in a housing association general needs property. She has just received a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease. She is beginning to neglect her appearance and personal hygiene, to forget appointments and forgets whether she has eaten or not. She has had a fall causing her to break her hip and is admitted to hospital where she becomes even more confused. Her family think she should apply for a tenancy in an extra care scheme. She doesn't appear to understand what they mean when the family raise this with her.

Case study 2

Mr A lives in a residential care home along with other people with advanced Dementia. The front door is locked both day and night and staff are not allowed to accompany residents out at night; but they can be accompanied by a staff member during the day. Residents are not allowed out unaccompanied at any time as this is regarded as unsafe. Mr A feels these arrangements are unfair and complains to the manager.