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Decisional and Dispositional Capacity Determinations: The Role of Neuropsychiatric Illness and an Integrated Clinical Paradigm

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## Abstract

*Objectives:* Assessment of decisional capacity requires thorough clinical review of a patient's current psychiatric symptoms and cognitive processes. The assessment to determine the patient's capacity for self-management post-discharge is a different clinical concept from decisional capacity. Standardized guidelines for capacity determinations (both for informed consent and for disposition) would be helpful to clinicians, patients and their caregivers.

Method: The authors reviewed the recent clinical literature on neuropsychiatric illnesses associated with impaired decisional capacity, as well as for the term "dispositional capacity."

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