

Consent

Saying YES  or NO 

Giving consent means saying yes or no to something.

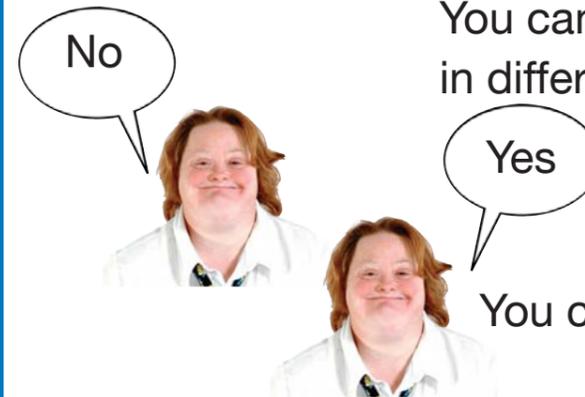


Before a doctor or nurse can treat you, they must ask you if it is OK.



Treatment might be an injection, medicine, an operation or something else.

You can give your consent in different ways:



You can say yes or no



You can make a sign



You can sign a form



information



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Date written: August 2012
Last revised: April 2018
Review date: April 2021
Version: 1.1
Code: PI1017

Based on a leaflet produced by Health Rights Information Scotland, a project of the Scottish Consumer Council, for the Scottish Executive Health Department.

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You can **ask questions** before you say yes or no.

You can ask:

- **what** will happen?
- **why** you need to have the **treatment**?
- **what** might go **wrong**?
- **if** anything else **can be done instead**?
- **what** will happen **if you say no**?

Your rights as a patient



You have **the right to say no**.



You have **the right to have someone with you** when you see the doctor or nurse.



You can ask to see a **different doctor or nurse**.

You do not have to be seen by a student.



You have the **right to say what you think about your health** and care.

The doctors and nurses will listen to what you say.



If you cannot say yes or no because you do not understand:

- The **doctor or nurse can treat you** if they think it is in the **best interest** of your health and safety.
- If you are **under 16** years old, your **parents can say yes or no** to your treatment



No one else can say yes or no for you unless they have been allowed to by a **judge** in a court of **law**.

In an emergency



You may **not be able to say yes or no** because you are too ill.



Doctors and nurses can still treat you if it will **save your life** or stop you coming to more harm.