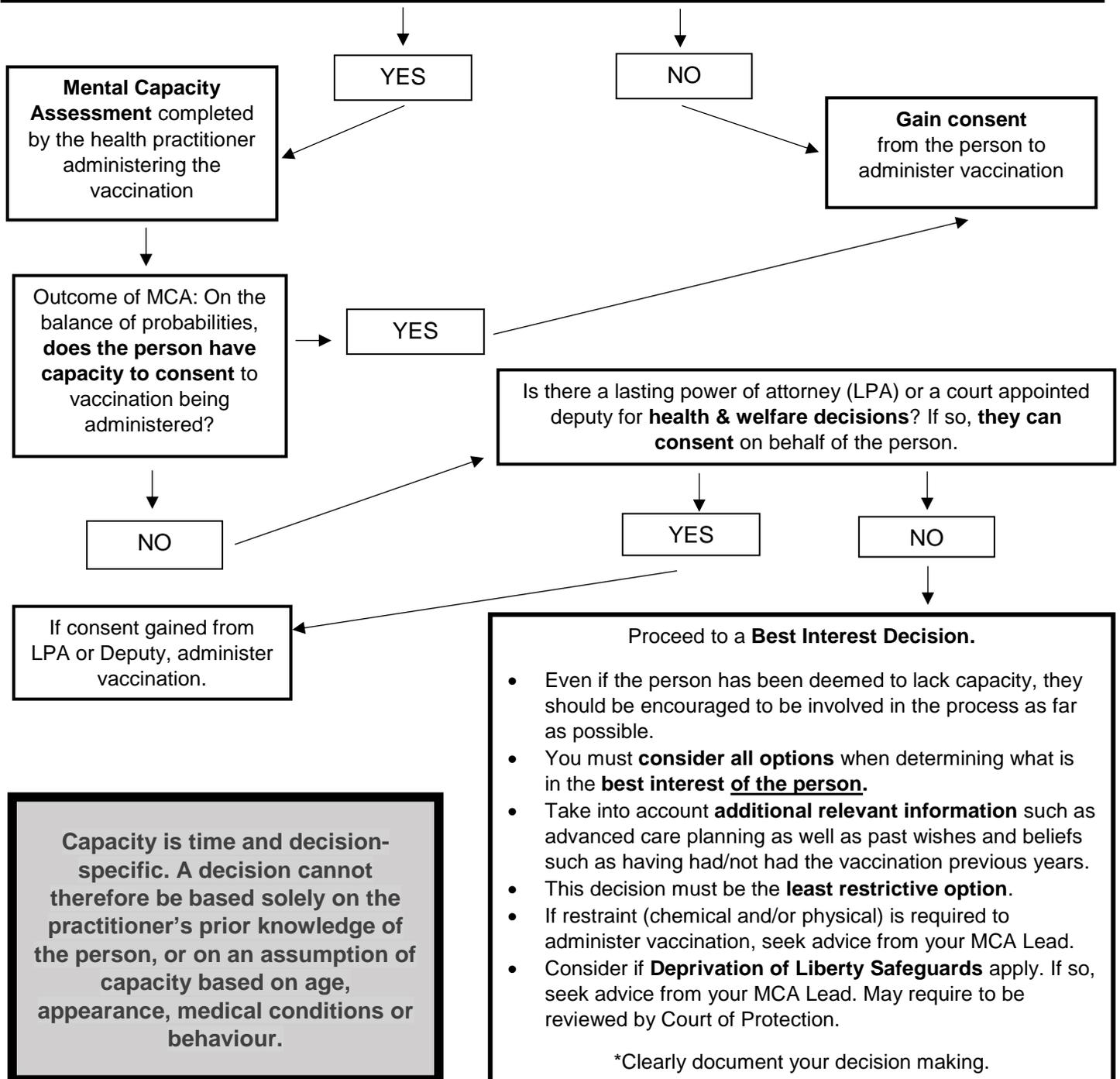


## Determining Ability to Consent to a Vaccination

You **must** gather information about **the individual** and **determine if there is any reason to doubt the person's ability to consent to receiving the vaccination.**

A person may need to be assisted to reach a decision, and every effort should be made to support an individual to make a decision, if they are able. If capacity fluctuates, for example if a person has an inter-current infection, then a decision should be postponed to see if capacity is regained when the person recovers.

**Ask the question:** Is there an impairment of or disturbance in the functioning of the person's mind or brain? Is there reason to question the person's capacity to consent to the vaccination?



**Capacity is time and decision-specific. A decision cannot therefore be based solely on the practitioner's prior knowledge of the person, or on an assumption of capacity based on age, appearance, medical conditions or behaviour.**

Please note: this tool is for guidance only and does not substitute legal advice.