

Public Guardian may act as a last resort health care decision maker when the person has;

- **impaired decision making capacity** related to the specific decision needed; and
- **no advance consent decision** in their Advance Personal Plan about the health care; and
- Public Guardian is appointed for health decisions; **OR**
- no other appropriate person on the hierarchy of health care decisions makers.

## 1 Exhaust all other options first

- Is there any other option on the **hierarchy**?
- If the health care is '**routine**', implied consent can be accepted when the person is clearly agreeable.
- Are the '**urgent health care**' provisions applicable in the circumstance?



## 2 Submit the Health Care Decision Request Form

Complete the PGT Health Care Decision Request Form and submit to [pgt.health@nt.gov.au](mailto:pgt.health@nt.gov.au) or phone **1800 810 979**



## 3 Confirm PGT has authority to make the decision

PGT will contact the health care provider to confirm authority as the Health Care Decision Maker (within 24 hours).  
For after-hours requests, leave a message at **1800 810 979**, a PGT Officer will respond to urgent requests asap.



Once authority to make the decision is confirmed

## 4 PGT will make the health care decision

PGT may need to speak with the person and their supporters in addition to information requested in the Health Care Decision Request Form.



## 5 Outcome of the health care decision

The health care decision will be provided to the person (where possible) and health care provider.

## Health Care Decision Requests - Tips

### 1 Exhaust all other options first

Please see:

- [Hierarchy of Health Care Decision Makers](#)
- [Adult Health Consent flowchart](#)
- [Routine Health Care Guideline](#)

### 2 Submit the Health Care Decision Request Form

Tips:

- Fill in as much of the form as possible
- Details of impaired decision making capacity must relate to the specific decision needed
- Speak to the person first, include their views
- Type into the form rather than handwrite

### 3 Confirm PGT has authority to make the decision

PGT may need extra information about:

- How impaired decision making capacity was determined?
- Communication or decision-support the person was provided with in order to accurately assess their capacity? Including the use of an Aboriginal Liaison Officer and/or interpreter.

### 4 PGT will make the health care decision

Keep in mind, the PGT will;

- represent the person not the health care provider
- advocate for the person to be involved in the decision as far as possible
- make the decision that aligns as closely as possible with what the person would have chosen for themselves.

### 5 Outcome of the health care decision

If you don't agree with the decision please advise us in writing your reasoning via [pgt.health@nt.gov.au](mailto:pgt.health@nt.gov.au)

Alternatively, an application can be made to NTCAT.

Please see the [NTCAT Health Care Decision Making Forms](#)