

# Understanding your patient's medicine needs:

## Patient Equality Act Assessment for Medication Reasonable Adjustment

If a patient has long term disabilities and has issues taking their medications as prescribed, there are lots of options to support them take their medicines safely. Follow these steps to better understand your patient's medication needs.

Does the patient have a long-term disability covered by the Equality Act (2010)?

Yes

No

The patient does not meet the requirements for additional medicines compliance support. Provide appropriate advice and guidance.

Step 1

How many medicines does the patient take and how frequently do they take them?



Step 2

What can the patient manage? Ask them about their physical abilities. Can they **swallow**? How **dexterous** are they? Do they have good **vision**? Assess their **mental capacity**. Do they understand which medicines they should take and when? Do they always remember to take their medicines?



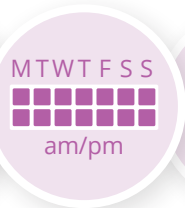
Step 4

Explain your assessment and recommendations to the patient in language that's suitable for their needs. Make sure they understand how they are going to receive their medicines and how to take them. Pay special attention to PRN medications.



Step 3

What adjustments might be appropriate for this patient given what they've told you about their physical and mental capacity?



To support having this conversation with the patient and recording your action plan, download a Patient Equality Act Assessment form for Reasonable Adjustments.

If the patient or carer has asked for their medicines to be dispensed in an MCA, or a Health Care Professional has recommended one, but your assessment indicates alternative reasonable adjustments are more appropriate, this short video can help explain to the patient or carer why MCAs aren't always the best solution.

For further information visit [www.weahsn.net/MCAs](http://www.weahsn.net/MCAs)