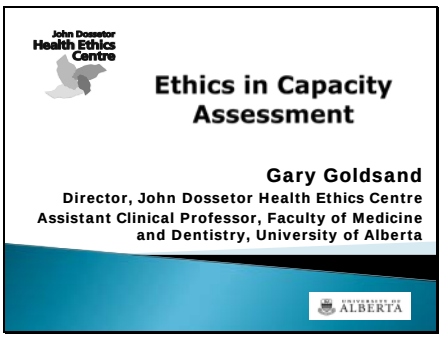
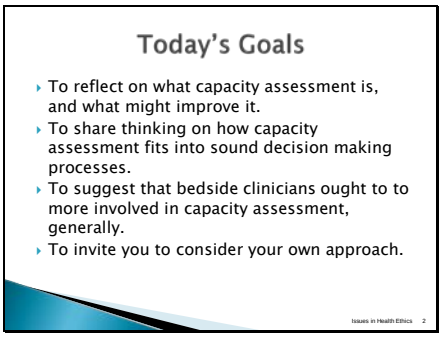
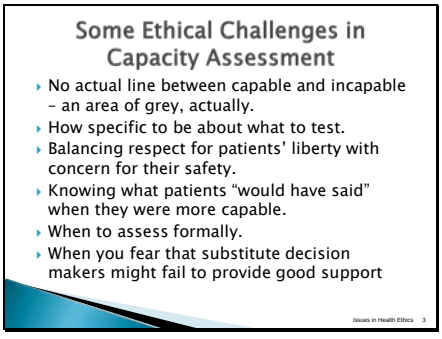
Slide 1



Slide 2



Slide 3



Slide 4

Key Considerations

- A paradigm of "Shared Decision Making."
- Principle of "respect for autonomy."
- Relationship between law and ethics.
- Components of a well-made decision.
- "Appreciation of Consequences"
- Global vs. decision-specific assessment?
- Formal and informal assessment.

Slide 5

Key Considerations

- The capacity "grey zone" in progressive decline.
- Standards of substitute decision making.
- Conflicts of Interest in surrogates.
- Advance care plans as aids
- Towards "collective" capacity assessment?
- Relationship between assessor and assessee?

Slide 6

Optimizing Substitute Decision Making

- Create a formal general category between "capable" and "incapable."
- Increase role of bedside clinicians in mapping cognitive decline in patients they care for.
- Aim for using the "substituted judgment" standard before "best interests."
- Respect the Grey – adjust legislation further to promote decision-specific assessment.
- Involve a clinician who knows the patient well.
- ….

Slide 7

Questions for Discussion

- In your experience, how well is the capacity of your patients assessed?
- How would you want your own future self to be assessed, when the time comes?
- Practical suggestions – how might we improve capacity assessment today?
- Other thoughts?

Slide 8

Thanks

Gary Goldsand
Director, JDHEC
Clinical Ethicist and Assistant Clinical Professor
Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
University of Alberta

goldsand@ualberta.ca

John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre
Phone: 780-492-6676
E-mail: dossetor.centre@ualberta.ca
Website: http://www.bioethics.ualberta.ca/

Slide 9

Still Relevant.....?

ACP Tracking Record **Goals of Care Designation Order**