

Joint Event  
12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on  
**Vascular Dementia and Dementia**  
&  
8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on  
**Neurological Disorders and Stroke**

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**Health & Welfare lasting powers of attorney and the mental capacity act what healthcare professionals need to know**

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**T**he Mental Capacity Act has been in force for over a decade, there is a sense that it is familiar and understood, yet in practice is not necessarily as well understood as was intended by Parliament. The health and social care system has created processes intended to comply with the terms of the Mental Capacity Act and yet by becoming process driven can fail to fulfil the empowering obligations that are intended in the Act. When the Mental Capacity Act came into force, it became possible to appoint someone to act for the donor regarding their

health and social care decisions. When health and social care professionals are then dealing with an attorney, what should they know and how should they treat the decisions made by the attorney. What exactly are the decisions that the health and social care professional can make and what decisions can the attorney make?

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