



THE
WALCOTE
PRACTICE
WINCHESTER'S PRIVATE GP

Consent

Consent is the legal means by which a person gives valid authorisation for treatment or care. For consent to be valid:

- 1) The person must have mental capacity to make the decision in question
- 2) The person must have sufficient information to make a choice
- 3) The consent must be freely given

Before proceeding with an examination or procedure/treatment, the doctor should always ensure that the patient understands the need for the examination or procedure/treatment and agrees to it being carried out.

If required, before providing consent, the patient should ask questions to ensure that they have a full understanding of what is involved, and the potential benefits and risks.

Consent can be written, verbal or implied (eg by getting onto the couch for an examination). For certain procedures, eg minor surgery, it is important that written consent is obtained from the patient.

The Walcote Practice abides by detailed UK legislation regarding any patients who may lack mental capacity to make a decision in question.