



# ReSPECT

Recommended Summary Plan for  
Emergency Care and Treatment

Easy read information for patients,  
parents, partners and families



## 2- Making choices about healthcare ReSPECT-3

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Choices about healthcare include what treatments you want and what treatments you don't want.



Some choices may seem less serious, like whether or not to take a painkiller for a headache.



And some are more serious, like whether to have an operation.



In an **emergency** there can be some very serious choices to make.



An **emergency** is when someone gets very sick or has a bad accident, and needs help in a hurry.



In an emergency, choices often have to be made very quickly.



Most of the time when people are unwell or hurt in an emergency there is a good chance that treatment will make them better.



This can make choosing treatments seem easier.



But sometimes there is not a good chance that a treatment will work.



And some treatments can be very painful for a long time afterwards.



So, everyone will have different wishes for how they want to be treated in an emergency.



**Making a ReSPECT plan will help people think about the kind of care they want before an emergency happens.**



**In an emergency, some people will be too poorly to tell doctors and nurses what they think.**



**The ReSPECT form will make sure a person's wishes are written down if they have to see a doctor or go to hospital.**



**ReSPECT is there to make sure that any decisions about your future care and treatment are made with you.**



**You should get all the support you need from healthcare workers to make a decision about emergency care.**



**If someone is not able to make a decision about emergency care, ReSPECT will make sure those decisions are made in the person's best interests.**



**For further information go to [www.respectprocess.org.uk](http://www.respectprocess.org.uk)**