

4. The consequences of not receiving the treatment

Does Imogen meet this criterion?

As Imogen has a serious mental illness, she is required to demonstrate her understanding of the treatment decision, and the consequences of not receiving treatment, to a higher level.

Watch how the clinician checks her understanding of the treatment implications.

Doctor:

Could you explain to me what you believe would be the consequences of not continuing with your treatment?

Imogen:

I mean I'd probably just end up back here with a tube in my nose?

Doctor:

What else might happen?

Imogen:

I, you know... I guess I could have a heart attack.

Doctor:

And?...

Imogen:

Worst case scenario I could probably die...

Doctor:

That's right. Unfortunately, that is one of the consequences of not persisting with treatment; it's a very serious illness. But, you don't have to make decisions about treatment today. I just wanted to raise a conversation with you. I encourage you to talk with your family about that. And we can talk about it later again.

Imogen:

Okay.

Imogen is capable of understanding in general terms:

4. The consequence of not receiving the treatment.