



**Mental  
Health  
Reform**

Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity)  
Act 2015: Considerations for Mental  
Health Services Conference

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# Outline of today's presentation

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- Centrality of the voice of the person in every context
- How the Act attempts to shift the balance of power in decision Making
- Other relevant policy and legislative frameworks
- Current practice and the experience of people with lived experience
- Importance of cultural change and the cultural shift required

# Who we are

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Promoting Improved Mental Health Services





# Centrality of the voice of the person

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## Experts by experience



## International human rights law

- ✓ International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- ✓ United National Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

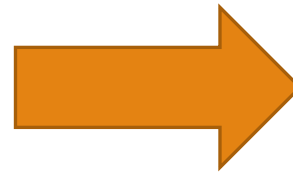


# Shift in balance of power

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**Passive recipients of care**



**Active partners in care and treatment**

# Other policy & legal frameworks



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# Delays in implementation



- **Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) Act 2015**
- **Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) (Amendment) Bill 2019**
- **Mental Health Amendment Act 2018**

# Current practice



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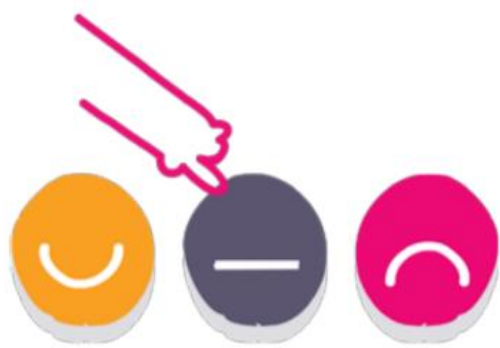
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# Individuals experiences

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**Not feeling listened to**



**High focus on medication**



**Lack of choice in terms of therapies**



## Need for cultural change

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- Legislative reform
- Coherency between law and policy
- Investment and resourcing
- Staffing and facilities
- Education and training
- Change in attitudes and mind-set
- Accountability in implementation
- Ongoing monitoring and evaluation

# Any questions?

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