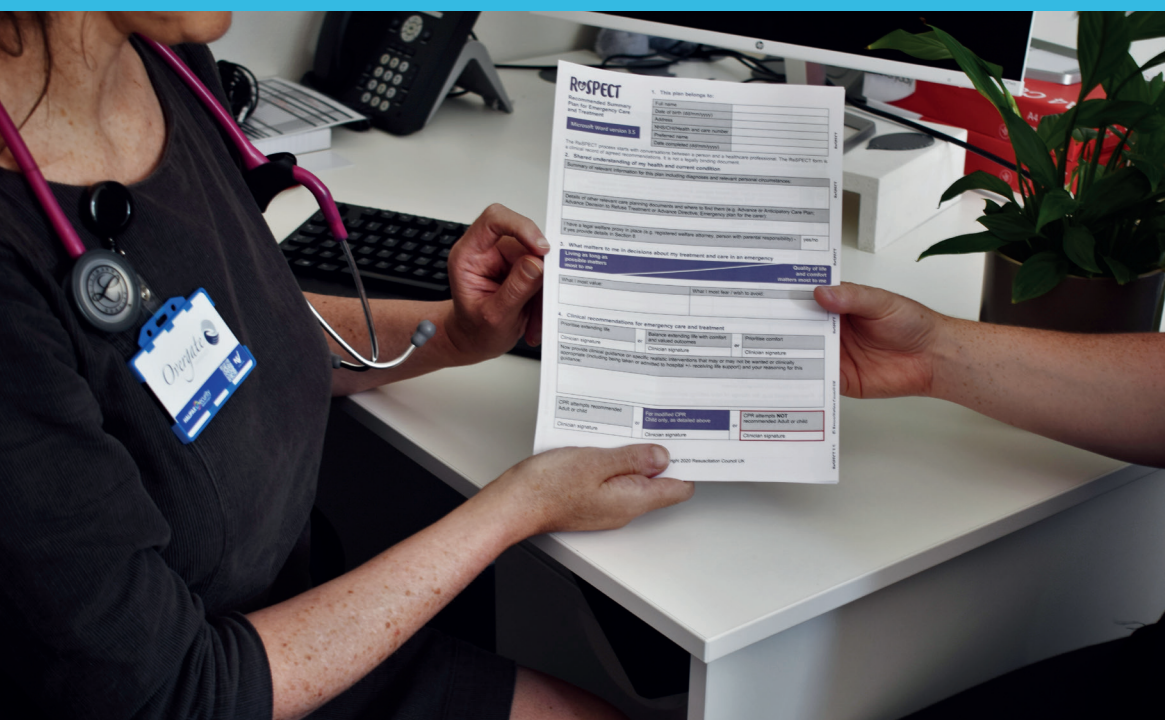


ReSPECT

Information for patients, carers, families of patients and members of the public



What is ReSPECT?

ReSPECT stands for **Recommended Summary Plan for Emergency Care and Treatment**. ReSPECT is a PROCESS and a PLAN. It creates a personalised recommendation for your clinical care in emergency situations where you are not able to make decisions or express what matters to you.

How does it work?

The process consists of conversations between you and your healthcare professionals, including but not limited to the team here at Overgate. The conversation will include the types of care and treatment you would want in an emergency and advice about which treatments would be likely to help you.

The aim of the process and the plan is to work with you to ensure you will receive the best possible treatment for your individual situation. This plan stays with you and should be available immediately to healthcare professionals called to help you in an emergency, whether you are being cared for at the Hospice, at home or elsewhere. Healthcare professionals will be better able to make quick decisions about how best to help you in an emergency if they can see your ReSPECT plan.

Who makes the decisions?

If you and your healthcare professional have agreed a plan, your plan will be used to guide your emergency care and treatment. Without a plan, if you are too ill to make decisions for yourself, decisions will be made by healthcare professionals trying to act in your best interests and for your benefit. It is important to understand that the ReSPECT plan cannot be used to demand treatments that are not likely to benefit you and would not be offered.

Who is it for?

This personalised process can be for anyone, but will have increasing relevance for people who have complex health needs, people who are likely to be nearing the end of their lives, and people who are at risk of sudden deterioration or cardiac arrest.

What if the person lacks capacity to make a ReSPECT plan?

You may be the person caring for an individual who lacks capacity* to make the recommendations needed in a ReSPECT plan. In this case, a plan can be made which is agreed to be in their best interests. This is not simply others deciding on their behalf, but a process of discussion with those who know the person best to ensure that the plan is as close as possible to what the individual would have wanted. This process for making decisions on someone else's behalf is guided by law.

*Capacity is the ability to understand information and use it to make informed choices.

Where can I find more information on ReSPECT?

More detailed information about the ReSPECT process, including patients' perspectives, can be found at www.respectprocess.org.uk.

If you would like more information or would like to discuss the ReSPECT plan with our team, you can call us on **01422 379151** or email info@overgatehospice.nhs.uk.

