

Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015: Embracing the *Paradigm Shift*

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"The Assisted Decision Making Act 2015 is a major Paradigm Shift which has to work its way through our societal systems..."

HOW DO WE BEGIN TO EMBRACE THE CHALLENGE?

PHASE 2 PROJECT SLTs TO BECOME ACCREDITED TM TRAINERS

- ▣ Funding - from IASLT.
- ▣ New accredited TM trainers to provide quota of subsidised training for IASLT members
- ▣ Further local TM training on prioritised basis
- ▣ Aim to begin to embed TM into practice over time



TALKING MATS (TM)

Award winning communication symbols tool, based on extensive research and designed by SLTs. It uses a space/ mat, topic cards and a top scale to allow the person to indicate feelings about the topic

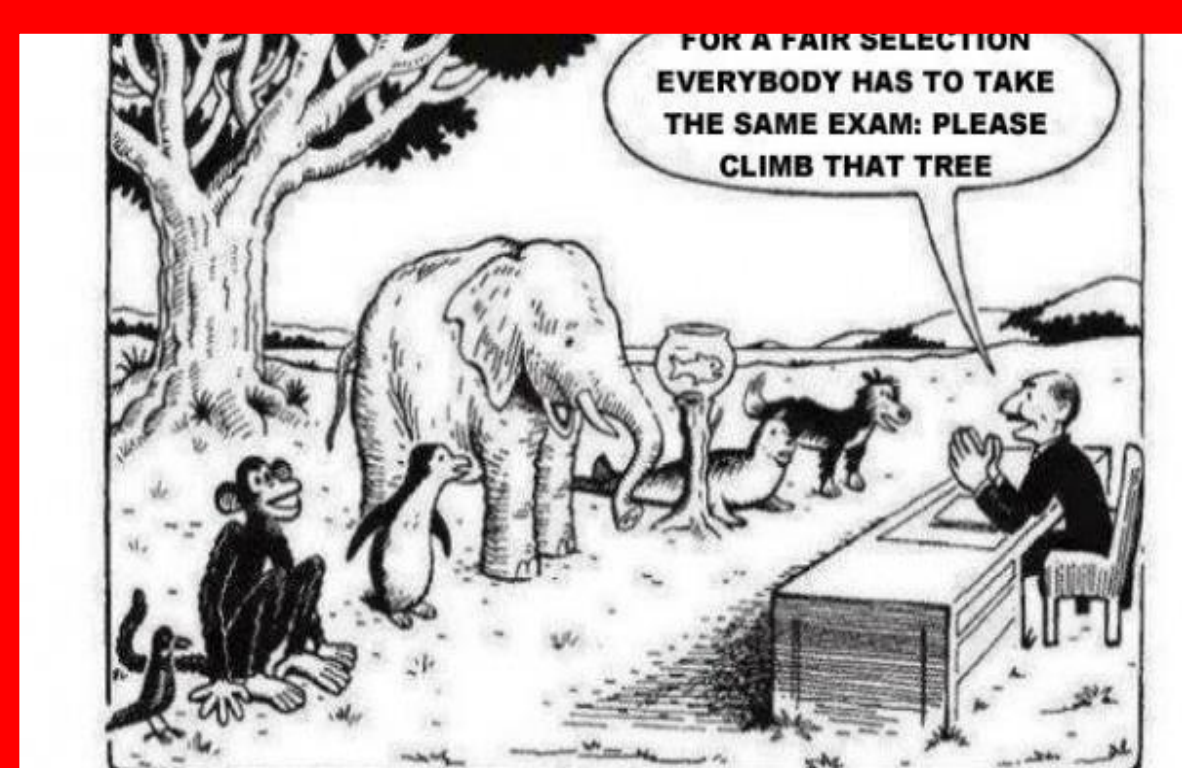
www.talkingmats.com



TALKING MAT EXAMPLE DECISION ABOUT MEALTIME PREFERENCE



I don't like
gravy!



PHASE 1 PROJECT WHAT SLTs DID

- ▣ 6 SLTs trained in TM.
- ▣ Explored TM with persons with dementia
- ▣ Video recorded TM
- ▣ Phase 1 report 2018 has 16 case studies
- ▣ All SLTs endorsed TM
- ▣ Report 2018 now available. Contact mary.walsh6@hse.ie

WHAT THE THERAPISTS SAID

allowed team to get more information about her health

He asked several questions – not generally!

Encourages reflective practice

TM allowed Sheila to talk openly

Clear reference point for conversation

It put the person with dementia in control of the conversation

ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT

1. Formed mutually supportive group of SLTs
2. Explored use of TM ADMA
3. Person centred care
4. Empowerment of person with dementia and carers

IASLT POSITION STATEMENT 2017

(on the Role of the Speech and Language Therapist in Assessing Capacity and Facilitating Understanding to Support Decision Making for Adults with Communication Disabilities.)

- 4.0: SLTs have the necessary skills to **participate in capacity assessor training**
- ▣ **Promote awareness** of communication needs how best to **make communication accessible**.
 - ▣ **Support people with complex communication needs** to make decisions ...
 - ▣ **Assess capacity** as part of MDT
 - ▣ **Support people to understand information**.
- SLTs also have a unique role in **supporting and training other professionals** working with speech, language and communication needs

Dementia Elevator Innovation Award Winner 2016 .

Empowering Persons with Dementia to Become More Active Participants in Decision Making Related to Their Present and Future Care