

***Practice* Based Scenario**

**Relative requesting advice for neighbour**

**About this document**

This document is designed to take you through a practice-based scenario to help you reflect on what you might do if faced with a similar situation.

It can be used to guide your thoughts and prompt discussion with your colleagues. Working through this document counts towards your continuing professional development (CPD).

Your reflections on this document are not assessed and you do not have to send your responses to the RCSLT.

You can work through it on your own, with a colleague or supervisor, or in groups, eg as part of an RCSLT Hub or Clinical Excellence Network.

This document is broken into five parts:

1. **The scenario:** for you to read
2. **The issues to consider:** for you to gather your thoughts on practice issues relating to this scenario
3. **Next steps:** for you to plan what you would need to do next
4. **Prompts for consideration:** RCSLT prompts for further consideration
5. **Sources of further information:**
6. **Update your CPD diary:** for you to do
7. **The scenario**

**A therapist is approached by a relative of a patient attending an aphasia support group.**

**The relative’s query concerns a neighbour who she describes as “a bit deaf and confused” and wonders if doing ‘speech exercises’ would be beneficial.**

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**What would you do in this scenario?**

1. **The issues to consider**

**What do you need to consider?**

Think about the above scenario and its implications and jot down your notes about issues you may need to consider. Please feel free to use extra sheets of paper if you need. Or, if you are in a group, you may like to record on a whiteboard or flipchart.

1. **Next steps**

**What steps do you think you need to take next?**

1. **Prompts for consideration**

It is recommended that you think about the following prompt questions and formulate a considered plan.

Remember that if you are faced with a similar situation you will need to think about it in relation to the frameworks within which you work, such as the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Standards, RCSLT professional guidance and resources, local and national policies and policies of your employer (or your own policies if practising independently).

Please note that this list is not exhaustive and does not constitute legal advice.

**Prompt questions to consider:**

1. What is your role in this situation?
2. What general advice can you give?
3. What limits your ability to give informed advice?
4. What other sources of advice could you link to?
5. What is your duty of care?
6. Are there issues of consent/ confidentiality in this case?
7. What responsibilities do you have as a registered member of HCPC in this situation?

**Possible next steps:**

1. Listen to the relatives concerns
2. Inform them of your professional boundaries
3. Explain any limitations to your ability to give informed advice
4. Give general advice
5. Explain about referral routes into the service
6. Discuss issues of consent
7. **Sources of further information**

**The following information in the professional accountability and autonomy, and professional guidance sections of the RCSLT website is also particularly relevant:**

2 - [Communicate appropriately and effectively](https://www.rcslt.org/professional-autonomy-and-accountability-guidance#section-6)

3 – [Knowledge and skills](https://www.rcslt.org/professional-autonomy-and-accountability-guidance#section-7)

4 – [Delegate appropriately](https://www.rcslt.org/professional-autonomy-and-accountability-guidance#section-8)

5 - [Respect confidentiality](https://www.rcslt.org/professional-autonomy-and-accountability-guidance#section-9)

6 - [Manage risk](https://www.rcslt.org/professional-autonomy-and-accountability-guidance#section-10)

7 - [Report concerns about safety](https://www.rcslt.org/professional-autonomy-and-accountability-guidance#section-11)

9 – [Be honest and trustworthy](https://www.rcslt.org/professional-autonomy-and-accountability-guidance#section-13)

[Duty of care](https://www.rcslt.org/duty-of-care)

[Difficult conversations](https://www.rcslt.org/having-difficult-conversations-guidance)

[Enabling service users, families and carers](https://www.rcslt.org/enabling-service-users-guidance)

[Raising Awareness](https://www.rcslt.org/raising-awareness)

**Contacts:**

[RCSLT Adviser](https://www.rcslt.org/supervision-contacts)s

1. **Update your CPD diary**

Working through this scenario counts towards your continuing professional development (CPD). Once you have completed this scenario, please record this learning and your reflections in your CPD diary.