

# VMRC Clinical Advocacy/ Consent Process

The Clinical Department advocates for the health care of our consumers by ensuring they are adequately informed regarding their health status and the possible procedures that are recommended to them.



#1.



## Receive Information about Consumer

Service Coordinators (SC) get notifications from the hospital or care homes regarding consumer's health and if consent is needed. Clinical Director or Clinical Nurse is notified.

#2.



## Collect Data on Consumer Status

Determine if consumer is conserved or not conserved via SANDIS and/or discussion with SC or care home provider. Find out from SC if consumer can make decisions for themselves or not.

#3.



## Determine Family Involvement

Ask SC and care home provider if consumer has family members that are actively participating in the client's care. Do we have their contact numbers? Are they responding in a timely manner?

#4.



## Supported Decision-making

When consumers can decide on their own, the care team (which includes the family, SC, care provider, and the Clinical Director and/or Clinical Nurses) discuss the health issues and helps the consumer make an informed-decision that is best for him/her.

#5.



## Decision-Maker

In the event that the consumer cannot decide on their own, is not conserved, has no legal power of attorney, and has no family involvement, or the family is not responding in a timely manner, VMRC Clinical Director and/or Clinical Nurse Consultants, which are the Exec. Director's Designees, will act as decision-maker for the consumer.

For questions, please contact Clinical Director Dr. Claire Lazaro at (209) 955-3206 / [clazaro@vmrc.net](mailto:clazaro@vmrc.net); or Clinical Nurse Consultant Carmela Beringuela at (209) 983-7100 / [cberinguela@vmrc.net](mailto:cberinguela@vmrc.net) or Clinical Nurse Consultant Lindsay Wiernicki at (209) 955-3360 / [lwiernicki@vmrc.net](mailto:lwiernicki@vmrc.net)