Supplementary Material 2 – Consent flow charts (patients lacking capacity)

Decision Making in ICU

Flow chart 2: Initial approach to patient and family when patient lacks capacity

Code numbers in parentheses indicate relevant information sheet, consent form or letter

Patient referred to ICU (therefore decision-making process is eligible as a study index case)

Agreement sought from family (if present) for presence of researcher. (researcher leaves if agreement withheld)

In first 48 hrs ICU or ICU outreach nurse give family leaflet about study and ask family if they will speak to researcher (FIS1)

Family consent

Family decline

Researcher approaches family and asks if they want further information and if they agree to a brief interview (FCF2)

Family consent Initial interview (FCF1)

Personal consultee decision requested (PCon1)

Interview conducted: Consent sought for approach to follow up interview (FCF2)

Contact details obtained

See Flow chart 3

Refused: No interview

Refused: No further follow up

These flow charts are intended to show the processes in place to ensure patients are given sufficient information and opportunity to make an informed decision about taking part in this research, and to give them sufficient opportunity to take part in the research. They are necessarily complicated. When following these charts all pathways should be explored to ensure all circumstances are accounted for.
Decision Making in ICU

Flow chart 6: Process for contacting and consenting of family members for follow-up interviews when the patient has not regained capacity

Code numbers in parentheses indicate relevant information sheet, consent form or letter

This flow chart shows the processes for contacting the families of patients who have not regained capacity during their hospital admission, to provide them with information and to ask if they would agree to a follow-up interview. The processes are designed to ensure that family members are given sufficient information and opportunity to make an informed decision about taking part in this research, without unduly burdening them at a difficult time.

Figure 47: Flow chart 6