

CPD WHILST YOU WEE



LEARNING DISABILITY (LD)

 **Learning Disability week 2025 16th June to 22nd June**

Theme: "Do you see me?"

Key Facts

- Men with LD die 23 years younger than their peers and women 27 years younger
- On average they have 11 health conditions, much higher than average
- 40% of deaths are due to pneumonia
- 70% of patients have dysphagia, so ask before giving them food or drink

TEACH

T - Time: it takes longer to get a history, so be prepared for this, is it possible to see them at the end of a ward round?

E - Environment: think about noise, lighting and distractions. Is a side room available

A - Attitude: Are bloods and observations essential? Less disruption and distress is better

C - Communication: Speak slowly with short sentences, describe and show any instructions, use aids such as Makaton if possible

H - Help: Get the LD team involved ASAP

TOP TIPS

- LD should not be listed on a death certificate as 1A as cause of death
- Capacity should be decision specific

Further Resources

RCP Toolkit 16

[Acute care toolkit 16: Acute medical care for people with a learning disability | RCP](#)

Acute Medical Podcast

<https://www.acutemedicine.org.uk/acute-medical-podcasts/>

