

Next Steps in Noam's Situation


- Conflict between respecting patient autonomy and restore patient capacity while also mitigating infection risk to the patient and others
- Steps should be taken to avoid compulsory measures
 1. Given this conflict, it is important to first engage in shared decision-making with psychoeducation, psychotherapy, family/friends, and medication [1]
 2. Judicial review and action (emergency vs. mental health treatment?)

Ethics of Compulsory Measures

- Current regulations for compulsory treatment by seclusion and restraint include violent or self-destructive behavior
- Unclear how this applies in this case
- Ethical principles of beneficence and justice → caring coercion and public health solidarity can be last resort

Szmukler & Appelbaum's Hierarchy of Treatment Pressures [2]

1. Persuasion
2. Interpersonal leverage
3. Inducements (i.e. reward)
4. Threats
5. Compulsory treatment



Requires highest justification, safety protocols (e.g. safe to perform nasopharyngeal swab).

[1] Russ MJ, Sisti D, Wilner PJ. When patients refuse COVID-19 testing, quarantine, and social distancing in inpatient psychiatry: clinical and ethical challenges. *J Med Ethics*. 2020;46(9):579-580. doi:[10.1136/medethics-2020-106613](https://doi.org/10.1136/medethics-2020-106613)
[2] Szmukler G, Appelbaum PS. Treatment pressures, leverage, coercion, and compulsion in mental health care. *Journal of Mental Health*. 2008;17(3):233-244. doi:10.1080/09638230802052203