

Dear Mad Reading Folk,

We look forward to seeing you in October where we will be discussing the topic *Madness, capacity, and significant life decisions*. It's a very broad topic, but we've had a number of interesting discussions lately that have involved the much-debated concept of 'capacity', so we are setting a few different reading options for people – bear in mind that some are quite heavy and people may want to opt-out of some of the readings, even if you'd still like to come along on the night for the discussion. **Content note** for suicide/assisted dying and eating disorders on the below readings.

Time and date:

Tuesday, 18th October, 7pm Melbourne time (reminder that we are now in Daylight Savings time which could make the time challenging for overseas members!)

Zoom link:

Please email madstudiesmelb@gmail.com for the link

Suggested readings:

1. This news article about 19 year old woman with an anorexia diagnosis, BG, who fought a court case for the right to have nutrition withheld: [Woman with eating disorder dies after judge says doctors can stop nutrition | STV News](#)

The transcript of the ruling is here for those interested: [A MENTAL HEALTH NHS TRUST v BG & Ors - Find case law \(nationalarchives.gov.uk\)](#)

2. A paper by Alex Miller Tate in *Bioethics*, 'Presuming incapacity in anorexia nervosa is indefensible: A reply to Ip' (attached with this email)

3. This explainer of a Supreme Court case outcome in Victoria looking at capacity to give consent to ECT treatment: [Landmark judgment strengthens patients' rights in compulsory electroconvulsive treatment cases | Victoria Legal Aid](#)

The transcript of the judgment is here for those interested: [PBU & NJE v Mental Health Tribunal \[2018\] VSC 564 \(1 November 2018\) \(austlii.edu.au\)](#)

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 18th!

Yours in solidarity,
Antonia and Zara