















8

## **Bolam test**

To satisfy the Bolam test, a medical professional must show that he acted in a way that a responsible body of medical professionals in the same field would regard as acceptable. The test is essentially a peer review of the doctor's behaviour - if others would have acted in a similar way, then the doctor is unlikely to have breached his duty of care.

It does not matter that other medics would have delivered a different treatment. Given the complexities of modern medicine it is possible, and even likely, that a dissenting group of doctors would done things differently. The key point is that a group of similar professionals think that the doctor acted in an acceptable manner.













