

Ethics & Confidentiality Quiz

Health Occ. Ch. 3

True or False.

- _____ 1. Family members may read a patient's chart as long as the physician is present.
- _____ 2. A physician may discuss a patient's records with colleagues if they will be consulting on the case.
- _____ 3. Nurses may discuss a patient's medical history with other nurses who work at the same hospital.
- _____ 4.. It's OK to view x-rays labeled with a patient's name as a learning experience, even if you aren't/weren't involved in the patient's case.
- _____ 5. The patient has a right to obtain a copy of any information in their medical record.
- _____ 6. You are legally responsible for your own actions regardless of what anyone else tells you to do/not to do and/or what position you hold.
- _____ 7. If you hear co-workers gossiping about a patient you should report it to your supervisor since it is ethically wrong.
- _____ 8. It is acceptable to refuse to care for a patient if you are uncomfortable with their race/religion/politics/sexuality/etc.
- _____ 9. A patient's medical records may be sent to their insurance company only if the patient gives signed consent.
- _____ 10. You see a friend's name on the surgery schedule while volunteering at the hospital. It is OK to call them and offer to bring and/or help with school assignments while they are in the hospital.
- _____ 11. A patient's medical records may be discussed with their family if the patient is critically ill.
- _____ 12. You suspect a patient has brought drugs/alcohol into the hospital. It is permissible to search their belongings while they are out of the room having a procedure done.

Short Answer.

13. There are two patients in the room and you need to ask some personal questions of one of the patients and/or deliver some information regarding their condition. How do you go about doing this?

14. You believe a colleague may be using drugs on the job. You talk to them about it and they confess that they are addicted to prescription drugs. How should you handle this and who should you tell?

15. A 32-year old man was pronounced brain-dead after an accident. His parents rebuffed inquiries about organ donation and threatened to sue if he were removed from life support. Two days after he was admitted, his physician wrote an order for the RT to discontinue the ventilator at 9:00 PM. (The family had left the hospital.) Concerned, the RT tried to contact the physician, only to learn that she had left town. The RT extubated the patient, who died a short time later. The family was only told that the patient had stopped breathing. What are your thoughts?

16. A 76-year old patient with metastatic colon cancer expressed a strong desire to try laetrile therapy after her surgery. Her nurse explained that the treatments haven't been proven effective, but she wouldn't hear it. When the nurse visited the next week, the patient was elated. She'd shown a videotape on laetrile to her oncologist, who had "seen the light" and written her a prescription. Concerned, the nurse contacted the physician. He laughed and said he hadn't prescribed laetrile, but that the patient would receive great psychological benefit from thinking she was taking a drug she believed in. In fact he had prescribed a vitamin pill, which was also mentioned in the videotape. The nurse feels very uncomfortable in maintaining this deception. What should she do?