

Informed Consent

OBJECTIVES/RATIONALE

For health care procedures, informed consent is the established legal doctrine stating that the patient has been instructed about what is entailed. The student will describe the implications of signed consent and be able to identify patients who might not be able to give informed consent.

TEKS: 121.4 (c) 7E

TAKS: ELA 1, 4
Social Studies 5

KEY POINTS

- I. Informed consent is a signed document stating the patient understands the medical procedure and the risks involved.
 - a. All consents require a witness 21 years of age or older.
 - b. All consents should be signed in ink.
 - c. Consents can be given over the telephone in certain situations.
 - i. These consents require two people to listen at the same time.
- II. Informed consent implies that the patient understands:
 - a. the proposed methods of treatment.
 - b. what necessitates the treatment.
 - c. the potential risks of the treatment.
 - d. the alternative methods of treatment.
 - e. the projected outcome of treatment.
- III. Informed consent demonstrates that the patient was not coerced into treatment or tests.
- IV. Individuals who cannot give informed consent include:
 - a. Minors
 - i. Exceptions include: emancipated minors, married minors, minors who live away from home and are self-supporting.
 - b. Mentally incompetent people (mentally retarded, senile, insane)
 - c. Individuals under influence of drugs or alcohol
 - d. People who speak a foreign language and may not fully comprehend English
- V. Patient education is vital to the issue of informed consent.
 - a. Healthcare professionals should be sure that patients understand all forms and all treatment before signing the consent.

ACTIVITIES

- I. Develop an informed consent form for the health care procedure involved in role play activity.
- II. Role-play a medical professional who must explain a medical procedure and obtain informed consent. (HIV test, removal of skin cancer, an endoscopy)

MATERIALS NEEDED

Sample Consent Form

Teacher Note:

Sample informed consent forms can be obtained from the hospital

Role-Play Rubric

Project Rubric

ACCOMMODATIONS

For reinforcement, the student will outline a health care situation requiring informed consent.

For enrichment, the student will summarize and write a report on the following court cases:

1. Doe v. Ohio State University Hospitals and Clinics, 663 N.E. 2d 1369 (Ohio Ct. of App., Sept. 19, 1995). Hospital sued for performing HIV test without informed consent.
 2. Zinermon v. Burch, 110 S Ct. 975 U.S. Sup. Ct., Feb.27, 1990). Patient not competent to sign forms.
-
-

REFLECTIONS

Sample Consent Form

Disclosure Of The Results Of The HIV Antibody Blood Test

A. AUTHORIZATION

I hereby authorize General Hospital to furnish to

_____ the results of my blood test for antibodies to HIV.
(Name of person who is to receive results)

B. USES

The Receiver may use the information for the following purpose(s):

C. RESTRICTIONS

This authorization is being given with the understanding that the Receiver will be informed in writing by the Hospital that state law protects the confidentiality of this information and prohibits any further disclosure of the information without my specific, written consent, or as otherwise permitted by law. The Receiver will be informed that a generally authorization for the release of medical or other information is not sufficient for this purpose.

D. DURATION

This authorization shall become effective immediately and shall remain in effect indefinitely or until

_____, whichever is shorter.
(Date)

Date

Patient's signature

Print name of patient