



**Briana, a 15-year-old girl who is covered by Medicaid, is requesting an IUD and does not have the consent of her parent. What do you do?**

- Tell the patient that she has to come back with a parent's consent.
- Inform the patient that you can and will perform the procedure, but must call a parent to notify them.
- Explain to the patient that you can perform the procedure without parental consent, but her parents may receive an Explanation of Benefits.

**Answer: (c.) Explain to Briana that you can perform the procedure without parental consent, but her parents could receive an Explanation of Benefits.**

**Michael is 14 and is requesting a chlamydia test. He doesn't want to tell his dad, who's in the waiting room. Does he need consent from his father?**

- Yes
- No

**Answer: No. Minors may consent on their own to testing and treatment of diseases that are required to be reported to the Department of State Health Services. This list includes some STIs such as chlamydia and gonorrhea. A physician may inform the parent of the treatment, but remember that maintaining client confidentiality can be an important part of insuring access to care.**



***Remember, it's best practice in many cases for a provider to encourage teens to talk to their parents/guardians, even if consent is not required. Encouraging this dialogue can be an opportunity to set up successful parent/teen communication.***



Jade is 16 years old. Can she receive a pregnancy test AND prenatal care without her parents' consent?

- a. Yes
- b. No

**Answer: Yes. Minors have the right to pregnancy testing and prenatal care other than abortion without parent/guardian consent.**

Which of these options below DO NOT require parental consent for a teen living with her parents?

- a. HPV vaccine
- b. ADHD medication for a 13 year-old
- c. Inpatient mental health treatment for a 16 year-old
- d. Depo Provera contraceptive shot for a teen on employer-sponsored insurance

**Answer: (c.) Minors who are 16 or older may request admission to an inpatient mental health facility without parental consent. All other options require a parent's consent. Pregnant or parenting minors may consent to vaccinations, but only for immunizations that the CDC recommends starting by age 7 (the HPV vaccine is started at age 11).**

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**Carlos is 14 years old and needs mental health care. Which of these statements is true for him?**

- a. He can consent to counseling without his parent's knowledge or consent
- b. If he needs to, he can consent to depression medication without his parent's consent
- c. If he is suicidal, he can get counseling and treatment without his parent's consent, but they may be notified.

d. He needs to get his parent's consent for any sort of mental health treatment.

**Answer: (c.) Minors may consent to their own mental health care for suicide prevention. However, the health care provider may choose to inform his parents.**

**Which of the following require parent/guardian consent?**

- a. Emergency care – a “life or limb” situation
- b. Any care for emancipated minors
- c. Contraceptives
- d. Vaccines
- e. Treatment for herpes or HPV
- f. Outpatient substance abuse treatment

**Answer: (c.), (d.), and (e.) Contraceptives (for teens not covered by Medicaid or outside of a Title X clinic) require parental consent. While a pregnant or parenting teen may consent to certain vaccines, in most cases vaccines require parental consent. Teens may consent to treatment for STIs only if the STI is required to be reported to DSHS. This includes diseases like chlamydia, gonorrhea, and HIV, but not other STIs like HPV or herpes. Additionally, teens can generally consent to their own care if age 16 or older, living on their own and managing their own finances.**

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