

Michigan Confidentiality/Minor Consent Laws

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT EXCEPTIONS

A parent or legal guardian must provide consent on behalf of a minor (under age 18) before health care services are provided, with **several important exceptions**.

- **Emergency care**
- **Care for emancipated minors**
 - Minors can be emancipated by: court order, marriage, military active duty.
- **Specific health care services related to:**
 - Sexual health
 - Mental health
 - Substance use treatment

Patients under 18 have the right to the following WITHOUT parental/guardian consent or knowledge:

- Pregnancy testing and prenatal care
- Birth control information and contraceptives
- Testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STI's)
- Substance abuse treatment

PATIENTS AGES 14 AND UP CAN ACCESS MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING WITHOUT PARENTAL/GUARDIAN CONSENT OR KNOWLEDGE

- Up to 12 visits, or 4 months

MINORS NEED A PARENT/GUARDIAN'S PERMISSION FOR:

- Vaccines (including HPV)
- Mental health medications
- Inpatient mental health treatment
- An abortion (unless a court-approved waiver is obtained)

HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS MUST OVERRIDE THE MINOR'S CONFIDENTIALITY AND REPORT IF:

- There is suspicion of abuse by an adult
- The minor is a risk to themselves or someone else
- The minor is under age 12 and has been sexually active
- The provider may choose (but is not obligated) to tell the parents about any care provided to the minor patient, for a compelling medical reason

For educational purposes only.