



Briana, a 15-year-old girl, is requesting an IUD and does not have the consent of her parent. The physician determines that without the IUD, probable health hazards would occur. 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 if she pays with her parent's insurance, they may receive an Explanation of Benefits.

Answer: c. Explain to Briana that you can perform the procedure without parental consent as there is probable health hazards of not providing the contraception (teenage pregnancy as patient is sexually active), but if she pays with her parent's insurance, they may 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.

All minors in Maryland have the right to consent to STI testing and treatment without a parent's consent.



Remember, it's best practice in most 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 informing her parents?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. It depends on physician determination

Answer: A. Minors may be able to consent to pregnancy testing and prenatal care without parent/guardian consent.



Carlos is 15 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 needs to, he can get inpatient treatment without his parent's consent.
- d. Actually, he needs to get his parent's consent for any sort of mental health treatment.

Answer: D. Minors under 16 cannot consent on their own to outpatient mental health services.

Which of the following requires parent/guardian consent?

- a. Emergency care – a “life or limb” situation
- b. Most sexual health services
- c. HPV Vaccine
- d. Inpatient mental health services

Answer: c. Inpatient mental health services are the only service on this list that requires a parent’s/guardian’s consent.

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Which of these options below do not require parental consent?

- a. Treatment/advice for contraceptives
- b. Diagnosis and/or treatment for sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS
- c. Treatment/advice for of injuries from an alleged rape or sexual offense
- d. Abortion services
- e. All of the above

Answer: e. Parental consent for all of the above services is not required. Note: (Parental notification is required, but consent is not needed for the procedure.)

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