Confidentiality Agreement and Risks of Entering the Post Mortem Room

Introduction

Privacy and the protection of confidential information is a serious issue and one of which all students need to be aware when undertaking a placement. Failure to do so can have legal ramifications. Students also need to be aware that confidentiality still applies after the placement has been completed. Confidential information learned whilst on placement should not be divulged at anytime without prior permission of the hospital. Students are required to abide by the confidentiality procedures of the hospital at which the placement is being undertaken. Therefore, the following agreement has been developed to ensure students are aware of their responsibilities with regard to maintaining confidentiality of materials. Students should also be aware of any Code of Ethics or Code of Conduct governing their discipline. In some cases there are specific legislative requirements of which students should be aware; for example, section 141 of the Health Services Act 1988 governing confidentiality and the Legal Practice Act 1996 and relevant Practice Rules. This agreement has been developed as a means by which the hospital may ensure that you understand your responsibilities. If you do not understand any part of this document or if you have uncertainties about its interpretation or application during the placement, you should discuss the matter with one of the senior staff members. Please read the Confidentiality Undertakings carefully.

Confidentiality Undertakings

(i) I will seek out and comply with the laws, regulations, procedures and policies of the hospital relating to confidentiality.
(ii) I will not disclose confidential information to any third party without the prior permission of the hospital.
(iii) I will not use confidential information for any purpose other than the placement.
(iv) I will not remove any confidential documents from the hospital without the written permission of the hospital.
(v) I understand that my obligations under this Agreement continue to have full force and effect when I am no longer an enrolled student.

Risks Associated With Entering the Post Mortem Room

(i) Students entering the PM room will be provided with Personal Protective Equipment. You must comply with instructions to wear this.
(ii) You are prohibited from using or touching any equipment in the PM room.
(iii) Be aware of equipment being used when walking around the room. There may be cables attached to electrical items. The floor is often wet so take extra care against slipping.
(iv) Sometimes there are cases when a post mortem examination becomes high risk. This can happen when we have limited medical history and there was no indication of a case needing to be carried out under high risk precaution. Very rarely it only becomes apparent there is an increased risk of infection when the internal examination is being carried out. If this happens you will be asked to vacate the room and advised accordingly.
(v) If at any time you feel unwell they must inform a member of staff and leave the PM room.
This agreement is made on the ________________ (DD/MM/YY)

Between

Central Manchester University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

And

(Print Student Name)   (Sign)   (Contact Telephone Number)

(Print Student Name)   (Sign)   (Contact Telephone Number)

(Print Student Name)   (Sign)   (Contact Telephone Number)

(Print Student Name)   (Sign)   (Contact Telephone Number)

(Print Student Name)   (Sign)   (Contact Telephone Number)

(Print Student Name)   (Sign)   (Contact Telephone Number)