

Empowering Communities...

#### CONFIDENTIALITY AND INFORMED CONSENT

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# **OBJECTIVES**

- Define confidentiality and informed consent
- Discuss the importance of confidentiality & consent
- List ethical and legal elements of informed consent
- Discuss the process informed consent.

# OBJECTIVES.....

- Discuss nurse's roles and responsibilities in consent process
- Implication of case consultation in nursing ethics.

# CONFIDENTIALITY

- Is an important principle in ethics, and is a central part of all research projects.
- About your privacy, meaning that any information you tell someone will be kept between you and that person, unless it is clear that it is public or open access information.

## INFORMED CONSENT

• Permission granted in full knowledge of the possible consequences, typically that which is given by a patient to a Doctor/Nurse for treatment with knowledge of the possible risks and benefits.

#### WHY CONFIDENTIALITY IS IMPORTANT?

• Creating a trusting environment by respecting patient privacy encourages the patient to seek care and to be as honest as possible during the course of a health care visit. It may also increase the patient's willingness to seek care.

#### WHY CONFIDENTIALITY IS IMPORTANT?...

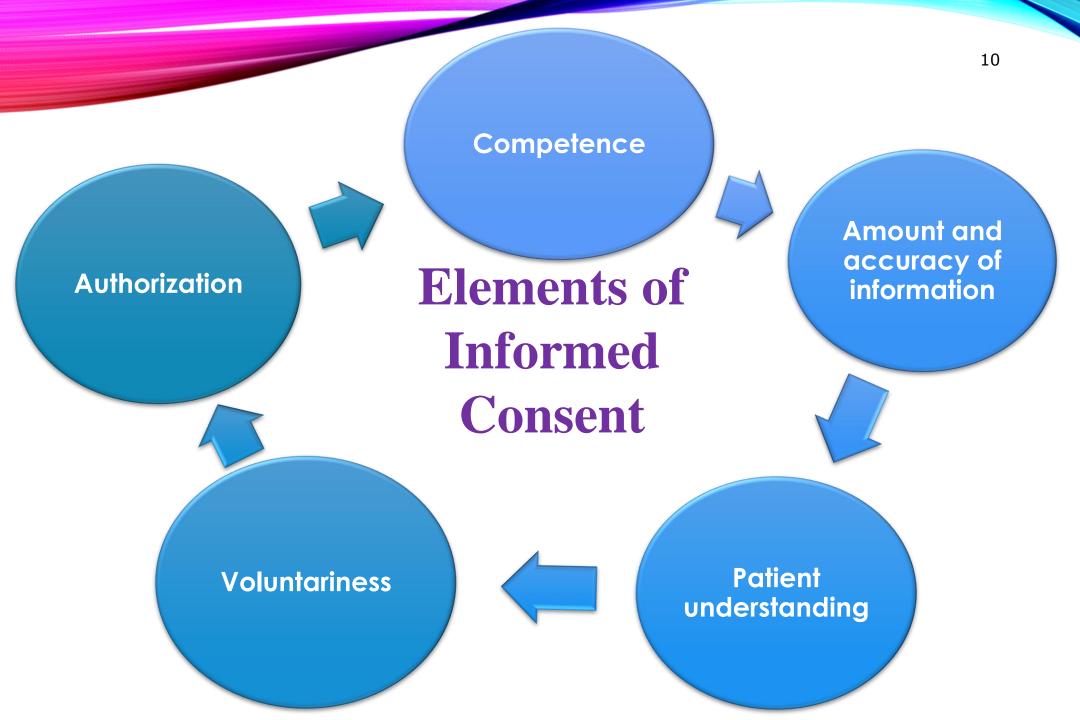
• For conditions that might be stigmatizing, such as reproductive, sexual, public health, and psychiatric health concerns, confidentiality assures that private information will not be disclosed to family or employers without their consent.

#### WHY INFORMED CONSENT IS IMPORTANT?

- The most important goal of informed consent is that the patient has an opportunity to be an informed participant in his/her health care decisions.
- It is generally accepted that informed consent includes a discussion of the following elements:

#### WHY INFORMED CONSENT IS IMPORTANT?

- The nature of the decision/procedure
- Reasonable alternatives to the proposed intervention
- The relevant risks, benefits, and uncertainties related to each alternative
- Assessment of patient understanding
- The acceptance of the intervention by the patient



## THE FIVE ELEMENTS OF INFORMED CONSENT

- 1. Competence: A legal term for the capacity to make a rational choice.
  - Ability to comprehend medical information and consequences of decisions
  - Ability to communicate decisions
  - One's age: Competence is presumed in healthcare decisions at age 18 years.

## • 2. Amount and accuracy of information:

- Patient-specific risks
- Potential benefits, risks, and limitation of all management options
- Available alternatives

- 3. Patient understanding: This is perhaps the most challenging aspect of informed consent; it is the responsibility of the healthcare provider to identify and attempt to overcome such barriers as the following:
  - Fear or denial
  - Illness

- Under education or reduced cognitive ability
- Cultural considerations
- Unscientific beliefs, family myths
- Language barriers

- 4. Voluntariness: The patient has to make a personal decision without coercion. He or she cannot simply yield to the suggestion of a family member, healthcare provider, or any other individual.
- 5. Authorization: The patient should actively agree to a course of action and that decision should be documented.

#### THE PROCESS OF INFORMED CONSENT

- Introduction
- Environment
- Assessment of Capacity to Consent
- Presentation of the Elements of Informed Consent
- Use of a Delayed Consent Procedure
- Assessment of the Subject's Comprehension

# THE PROCESS OF INFORMED CONSENT CONTI...

- Documentation of Informed Consent
- Ongoing Consent
- Conclusion

