



Confidentiality

Please consider and answer the following questions:

What is confidentiality?

What are some of the reasons why doctor-patient confidentiality is so important and in what circumstances do you think information can be shared?

Scenario 1

You are on a bus travelling back from your 'work experience' placement and you bump into one of your friends. You are really eager to share what you have been doing and start chatting. What can and can't you discuss with them?

Think about if you were one of the patients you had seen and you overheard someone talking about you...

Scenario 2

A 48-year-old mother of two is visiting her GP because she has frequent back pain. Towards the end of the appointment she asks her GP about her sixteen-year-old son, he had an appointment with the same GP last week which he said was for an earache, but she didn't believe him. She asks the GP what her son's appointment was for and whether he is OK?

If you were the GP in this situation what would you do?