



# EuTEACH

European Training in Effective Adolescent  
Care and Health

*Getting their trust...*

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# Getting their trust....

## ➤ Setting the frame

✉ Time limit, format, parents, feedback, return visit

## ➤ Being there

✉ Well prepared, showing that you enjoy meeting them, listening to them...

## ➤ Confidentiality declaration of it..

✉ Explaining what it means

# Confidentiality and rights

- Confidentiality - One corner-stone in Adolescent - friendly- services
- UN convention on the rights of the child is an universal frame work
- Human rights convention another
- National legal aspects and cultural issues are involved

# Objectives

- Understand and apply the concept of confidentiality (and informed consent) to one's practice when dealing with adolescents
- Understand how the issues raised by the UN convention on the rights of Children relate to one's particular practice with adolescents

# Confidentiality

The professionell should not disclose anything learned from a person who has consulted them, or whom he or she has examined or treated - without that persons agreement.

# Limits to Confidentiality

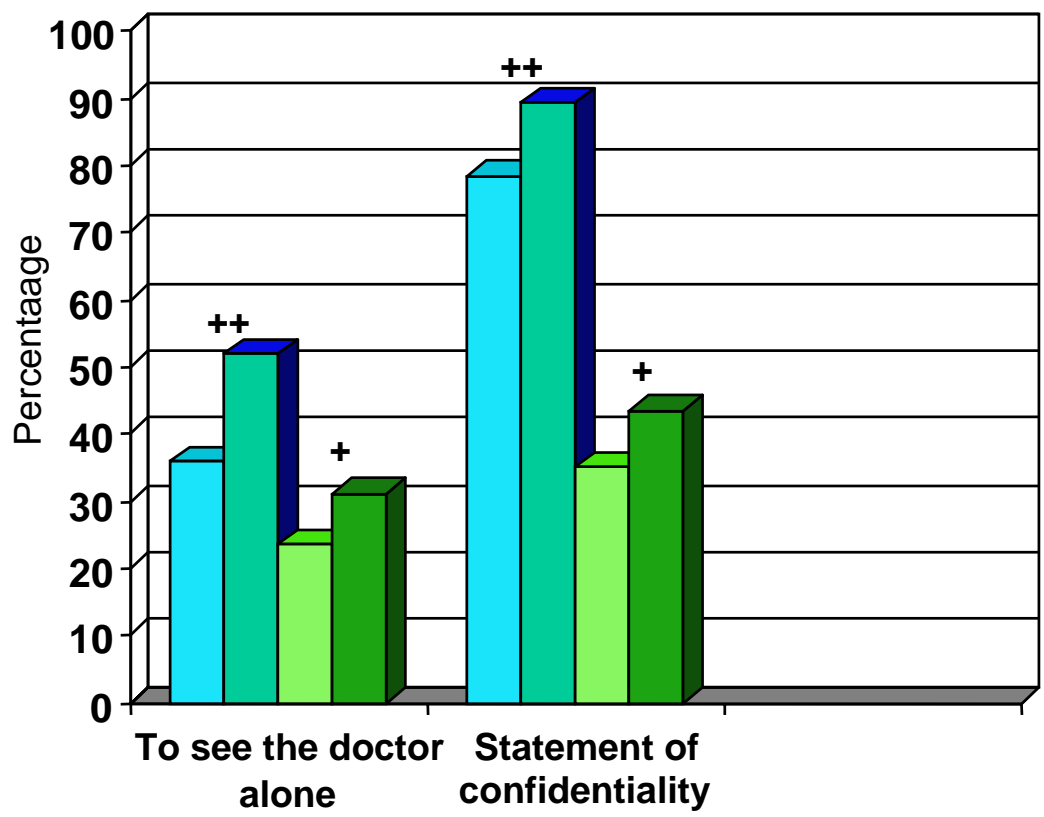
- ❖ Risk of suicide
- ❖ Risk of homicide
- ❖ Sexual abuse, substance abuse or other serious signs of a harmful life style
- ❖ Reportable Disease
- ❖ The patient might be either a victim or a perpetrator!

# Confidentiality

- What does it mean to you?
  - ✉ Do you apply it???
- What problems have you encountered in your work with young people?

# Adolescents' Expectations

To see the doctor alone + Statement of Confidentiality



## Expectations

- 13 years old
- 15 years old

## Experiences made

- Offered by the doctor to 13 years old
- Offered by the doctor to 15 years old

++: p<0.0001; +: p<0.01

# Effect of Confidentiality Assurance

Number of students who believe that the doctor would keep confidentiality before and after confidentiality statement about:

- Having sex:  
Before: 40%, After: 72%
- Diagnosis of STI:  
Before: 6%, After: 28%
- Treatment of STI:  
Before: 11%, After: 36%
- Regular tobacco use:  
Before: 43%, After 60%

# Effect of Confidentiality Assurance (2)

## The statement of confidentiality:

- Increases the adolescent's willingness to disclose sensitive information (39% vs 47%)
- Increases the likelihood of seeking future health care (53% to 67%)
- The statement of unconditional vs conditional assurance of confidentiality increases the likelihood of return visits even more (+10%)

# Adolescents' suggestions to increase trust and understanding of confidentiality

- Emphasize the protections of confidentiality
- Explain the limits of confidentiality within the context of caring rather than law.
- Be very specific about what can and can not be managed confidentially
- Communicate how you will manage grey areas.

# Group work

- How is the policy of confidentiality in your professional setting defined and communicated?
- Design the text for your/a clinic/health service for a formal assurance of confidentiality (poster, flyer...other ways of communication?)

# The UN-Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)

- A new vision of the child as subject with own rights, as a member of a family and community, NOT a helpless object that has to be protected and is in property of the parents
- Ratified by 192 countries (= all minus USA and Somalia)
- Guided by the „Best interest of the Child“ (Art.3)

# The UN-Convention on the Rights of the Child (2)

## ➤ Domains of Rights:

- ✉ Survival and freedom
- ✉ Fullest development
- ✉ Protection from harmful influences
- ✉ Full participation in family culture and social life.

## ➤ Special Article (24) on Access to Health Care (Art. 24)

➤ Without discrimination and everywhere...

# Article 12 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

State parties shall assure to the child who is capable of forming his or her own views, the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child

# Dissemination of the UN-CRC

- Art. 42:  
States Parties undertake to make the principles and provisions of the Convention widely known by appropriate and active means....
- How is it applied in your country?

# Informed Consent

- What does it mean?
- Who can give it?
- At what age can they give it?
- What would be a test of competence to give consent?
- Why is it different in different countries?

# Who can give consent?

- Concept of the „Mature minor“ as someone who has decision-making capacity
- Example in the US: Minors who are seeking treatment for certain medical conditions, such as sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy, and drug or alcohol abuse.

# „Mature Minor“

- How is the concept used in your country?
- How do you assess decisional capacity of the minor?
- Any rules for documentation of this assessment?