



Creatively working with sexually active teens : Respect, Compassion, and confidentiality in STI Reporting

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Hello! My name is Rosie and I'm a senior at Madison East High where I do Forensics and Theatre. I also work as a barista. When I grow up I'd like to be a social worker or therapist of some kind. I'm excited to help spread useful information and better communication in the Madison area for my second year as a Teen Educator!

Introduce yourself to your neighbor

Where do you work?

What we'll discuss today

- Understand what it's like to be a teen seeking sexual health services
- STI reporting laws in Wisconsin
- Confidentiality, and why it's so hard to maintain
- How to talk to teens about sexual behavior

Why confidentiality matters so much: Gina's story



What it's like to be a teen in today's world

- Influences of parents, friends, media, teachers, medical providers, and so much more!
- Allow yourself to really BECOME your character! Play and have fun!

STI Reporting laws in Wisconsin

- **252.11 Sexually transmitted disease.**
- [252.11\(1\)](#) **(1)** In this section, “sexually transmitted disease” means syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia and other diseases the department includes by rule.
- [252.11\(1m\)](#) **(1m)** A physician or other health care professional called to attend a person infected with any form of sexually transmitted disease, as specified in rules promulgated by the department, shall report the disease to the local health officer and to the department in the manner directed by the department in writing on forms furnished by the department. A physician may treat a minor infected with a sexually transmitted disease or examine and diagnose a minor for the presence of such a disease without obtaining the consent of the minor's parents or guardian. The physician shall incur no civil liability solely by reason of the lack of consent of the minor's parents or guardian.

PHMDC follow up with teen reports of STI's

- Receive report from provider office via WEDSS (Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System)
- Close working relationships with school nurses allow us to speak to teens when they are in school
- During follow up we discuss why the teen was tested, if they tolerated meds, need to wait 7 days for sex, partner notification, and prevention, with condom education. If there is time, we discuss family planning and immunizations to protect against STI's
- What we do when a teen isn't attending school
- Getting the right phone number in WEDSS

Where can the process break down?

- When the parent pretends to be a teen
- When the teen isn't in school
- When report comes electronically, and the phone number is the home number or parent's cell phone
- When we can't reach a teen on the phone, and send a letter that gets opened
- Explanation of Benefits (EOB's) and Electronic Health Records (EHR's)
- What have you seen? What have you tried? What works for you?

How to talk about sexual activity, respectfully and compassionately

- CONFIDENTIALITY FIRST!!! Explain how you keep teen's info confidential, what you can't, and how to bridge the gap, make specific plans!
- Hints and Tips on having "The Sex Talk" in the office
 - Teens have autonomy and want it respected
 - Use gender neutral terms when discussing partners
 - Get a complete sexual health history, ask all the questions
 - Ask if they want to be tested for STI's, don't assume
 - Ask about pregnancy plans and ways to prevent if desired
 - Anticipatory guidance

Q and A



Resources

- National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics

<http://www.ncvhs.hhs.gov/wpcontent/uploads/2014/05/100615p07.pdf>

- Reporting Requirements for Sexually Active Adolescents

<https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sspw/pdf/rrfsaa.pdf>