



Health Care Professional Students as Patients

Guidance

Agnes Galloway Lead PEF NHS Tayside

18/07/2022

Health Care Professional Students being admitted to Practice Learning Environments- Overarching principles

NHS Tayside and NHS Fife provide extensive and varied opportunities for learning for Health Care Professional Students. As teaching organisations students will be part of care delivery to all patients.

This guidance is for staff members in clinical areas that have a student admitted as a patient, and other students are in the same area on placement.

As such there may be times when a student may require the supports of these services. They will have the right to refuse to have other students participate directly in their care.

Although these overarching principles provide guidance, you must consider each student's admission or referral on an individual basis.

All students have a responsibility to keep their University contact up to date with regards to all health related concerns and episodes of ill health that impact on their programme of learning.

When a Student is admitted to a Practice Learning Environment that has students on placement in the same area

- If emergency admission other students may need to be moved temporarily by ward staff to prevent distress to patient and students on placement.
 - For example ensure student does not have contact with the patient and is allocated elsewhere on the ward
 - Off duty to be reorganised to allow for alternative arrangements to be organised
- If patient then consents to students participating in direct patient care, Students can remain / if capacity to consent in question, medical staff need to assess and determine level of capacity and document in nursing/medical notes and review regularly.
- Patient can withdraw consent at any time- if so see above.
- Students are bound by The Code (2018) in relation to confidentiality and professionalism
- If patient does not consent to students caring for them:
 - Alternative arrangements to be made to minimise disruption to learning
 - Consider allocation to a different part of the ward
 - If this is not appropriate, contact PEF who will liaise with the Higher Education Institution placement team for placement reallocation
 - Students Advisor of Studies to be informed of any placement change to support the student

Flow Chart- Health Care Professional Students being admitted to Practice Learning Environments



