

FROM MEDICAL & ALLIED BRANCH



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

An Roinn

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

HSS(MD)19/2006

To:

All General Medical Practitioners
All General Dental Practitioners

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Dear Colleague

GOOD PRACTICE IN CONSENT

Consent Desk Aid: 12 Key Points on Consent

We have enclosed a desk aid summarising 12 key points on consent. This may be helpful in answering some frequently asked questions about consent. The desk aid summary cannot cover all situations, and you should consult the Reference Guide to Consent for Examination, Treatment or Care and the supporting leaflets and forms for more details.

Background

In March 2003 the Department issued circular HSS(MD)7/2003 which aimed to ensure that the process of consent becomes properly focused on the rights of individuals and their relatives. To support this ethos the Department has produced guidance for professional, information for patients and relatives, and standardised consent forms for use when written consent is appropriate.

Consent documents

- “Reference Guide to Consent for Examination, Treatment or Care” which gives a background to the law on consent for health and social care professionals;
- “Good Practice in Consent: Consent for Examination, Treatment or Care: A Handbook for the HPSS”;
- “Seeking consent..” series of leaflets for professionals working with children, older people, people with learning disabilities, and prisoners and detainees
- “Consent- it’s up to you” patient information leaflet
- “Consent – What you have a right to expect” more detailed series guides for patients and relatives
- Consent forms

- Form 1 for Adults
- Form 2 for Parental agreement for Children
- Form 3 for Procedures where consciousness is not impaired
- Form 4 for Adults who are unable to consent

The consent forms, consent leaflet and consent guides are available from CSA Regional Supplies Service under the normal stock requisition process.

Website

The consent documents are available on the DHSSPS consent webpage:

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/phealth/public_health_consent.htm

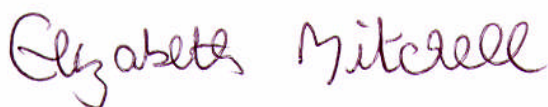
Some of the forms and information leaflets are also available translated into other languages.

The following circulars relate to good practice in consent and can be found on the DHSSPS website at:

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/phealth/cmo_communications.htm

HSS(MD)7/2003	Good Practice in Consent
HSS(MD)10/2004	Good Practice in Consent – Regional Forms and Guides
HSS(MD)20/2005	Good Practice in Consent – European Court of Human Rights Ruling
HSS(MD)28/2005	Good Practice in Consent – Student Health Professionals

Yours sincerely



Dr Elizabeth Mitchell
Chief Medical Officer (Acting)

Mrs Doreen Wilson
Chief Dental Officer

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