

MyChart Adolescent Access Updates Question & Answer Sheet

Effective February 3, 2020

1. What is it that adolescents may do without parental consent?

As a general rule, we disclose PHI about minors to their parents or legal guardians. However, in instances where state law allows minors to consent to their own treatment without parental consent, we should not disclose that information to a minor's parents without the minor's permission unless otherwise specifically allowed under state law.

a. DRUG ABUSE and ADDICTION

Physicians may examine and treat minors for drug abuse and addiction, without the consent of parents of the minor.

b. VENEREAL DISEASE

Physicians may also examine and treat minors for venereal disease without the consent of or notification to parents. However, a doctor may, but is not obligated to, inform a parent or guardian without the minor's consent if the doctor believes it will be beneficial for the minor.

c. OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH

The Kansas Attorney General has concluded a mature minor has the legal capacity to consent to outpatient mental health services as well. The consent must be informed consent in relation to the potential risks and benefits of the type of mental health treatment provided. Maturity means having the intellectual capacity, experience and knowledge necessary to substantially understand the situation at hand and the consequences of the choices that can be made.

d. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (BIRTH CONTROL)

Based on Attorney General Opinions concluding absolute prohibitions and mandatory parental consent provisions for contraceptives for minors would be unconstitutional, minors who demonstrate a certain level of maturity, as determined by the doctor, generally may obtain contraceptives without the consent of a parent or guardian.

2. Will there be special access for patients with diminished capacity who are 14-17 years old?

Yes, there will be a form that the parent or guardian and the physician would sign stating that the minor does not possess the maturity or mental capacity to provide the necessary consent to obtain and receive health care services as permitted under Kansas law.

3. Who can I call with questions about the MyChart adolescent process?

You can call Stormont Vail Health's Patient Experience department at (785) 354-6277 to talk to a representative.