

Student Worksheet: Case 1

Thomas is a 5th year medical student and is on GP placement. A newly-registered patient is seen by Thomas after suffering from migraines. The patient states that she wants to get better because she is going on holiday to Bali. Thomas mentions in passing that he has been to Bali last summer and recommends a number of activities to do there. The consultation is otherwise uneventful.

A week or so later Thomas receives a friendship request from the patient on Facebook. He accepts the request but quickly regrets his decision after the patient starts to post flirtatious comments under multiple photos on his page.

Thomas tries to ignore this but a few days later the patient makes another appointment at the GP and asks to see Thomas. She tells Thomas that she really enjoyed talking to him last time and thinks they should go for a drink sometime.

Actions (what should the individual do now?)

Learning points (guidelines relevant to this case)

Student Worksheet: Case 2

Natalie and Emma are two medical students on an upper GI surgical ward. One morning, Natalie is running late so asks Emma on Facebook messenger to let her know what surgeries are scheduled for the day.

Emma takes a photograph of the operating list with the intention of sending it to Natalie. Emma accidentally sends the photo to a group chat including all the medical students in the hospital they are at. The theatre list shows what operations are performed, the name of the hospital, the names of the 10 patients, their dates of birth and NHS numbers.

One of the medical students in the group chat is concerned about patient confidentiality and that this information may be potentially in the public domain. He reports the medical student to the Medical School and a fitness to practise investigation followed.

Actions (what should the individual do now?)

Learning points (guidelines relevant to this case)

Student Worksheet: Case 3

Tessa is a medical student on a Renal ward with three other medical students.

During a ward round, Dr Hughes, a consultant asks Tessa, “What are the key features of Nephrotic syndrome?”. Tessa doesn’t know the answer. Dr Hughes proceeds to list the key features and then suggests that Tessa spend more time in the library.

Tessa returns home upset by what the consultant said. Tessa logs into Facebook and writes a status saying, “My new consultant, Dr Hughes is an absolute b**ch. So upset :(!”

Actions (what should the individual do now?)

Learning points (guidelines relevant to this case)

Student Worksheet: Case 4

Alex is a medical student who is attending a clinical genetics clinic that specialises in patients with severe skeletal abnormalities of the extremities.

During this clinic, Alex was asked by the consultant to take photographs of a patient's hands and feet. Consent was obtained from the patient to allow the photographs to be taken and stored in their notes, and the patient consented to the images being used for teaching purposes within the department

Alex then uploaded the image to the department's computer and emailed the picture to himself. He then proceeded to post it on twitter with the tweet, "Rare clinical skeletal disorder #AWESOME".

The patient later found the tweet which had been reposted by a twitter community for sufferers of the skeletal disorder. The patient recognised her engagement ring and was very upset. The patient then made a complaint that the image had been used without her consent and was therefore a breach of confidentiality A fitness to practice investigation then followed for Alex.

Actions (what should the individual do now?)

Learning points (guidelines relevant to this case)

Student Worksheet: Case 5

Samantha is a first year medical student.

One night during freshers fortnight she is extremely intoxicated.

The next morning Samantha gets a call from her mum asking her if she is ok and to explain the video that Samantha has just been tagged in on Facebook.

Samantha logs into Facebook and notices that her friend has tagged her in a video which shows herself stealing a traffic cone whilst screaming “fresher!” before subsequently vomiting on the floor. Samantha is mortified.

Actions (what should the individual do now?)

Learning points (guidelines relevant to this case)