

Standardized Patient Education Program Confidentiality Policy

Case content obtained during Standardized Patient Encounters for the CRIM high stakes clinical examinations and IPC II formative SP encounters may not be shared by students, faculty or staff with persons outside of the encounters or exam rooms. Sharing this information with others outside of the encounter or test rooms raises ethical issues and diminishes the educational experience. Clinical information, therefore, must not be shared with other students outside of the encounter or test rooms.

Accordingly, this policy of confidentiality applies to all Division of Interdisciplinary Medical Education (DIME) courses specifically to include CRIM, IPC II, CPS II, and courses that use Standardized Patient cases or the DxR computer assisted instruction program with regards to case content. Students, faculty and staff involved with DIME courses and corresponding cases are expected to comply with this policy.

As to all the clinical, basic science and patient history and communication content of every UNSOM Standardized Patient case being portrayed during the current and past academic years, students are expected to maintain patient confidentiality and treat these cases as though the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) are applicable. The case content is not to be disclosed in any form outside of the actual student and patient encounter or examination sessions.

This requirement of confidentiality does not apply to faculty and staff working directly with case content for the purpose of creating, revising or otherwise preparing content for use in formative encounters or student examinations.

Violations of this policy will be considered academic dishonesty and will be referred to the Student Honor Committee for possible action. Actions taken shall be in accordance with the Student Honor Committee procedures set forth in this handbook and may be referred to the Student Development Committee.