

Confidentiality Requirements: Parents and Guardians

CCP cares for your child from birth through early adulthood. As your child grows, it is important to our providers that we form a trusting, individual relationship with your child.

While we value our relationship with you as a parent, your child is our patient, and we must put his or her needs first. Once your child enters his or her teen years, your provider may ask to talk privately with your son or daughter during routine and sick visits. By speaking to a doctor, your child will start to take ownership of his or her own health. It is important your child know we are here to learn about his or her hopes and needs so that we can set attainable goals.

Our providers will discuss how certain behaviors can affect your son or daughter's health, and in turn, encourage positive choices. We may discuss things like:

- how school is going
- goals for the future
- friendships or romantic relationships
- sensitive topics such as sex, drugs or identity

Starting at age 13, your child has the right to confidential care in the patient-doctor relationship. Confidentiality means that we will make every effort to disclose important health information first by empowering your son or daughter to discuss it with you. If that is not possible, we will attempt to discuss important information with the patient's permission.

However, if your child shares information with his or her provider that raises the possibility of harm to himself or herself, or others, or that someone is harming the patient, we will share this information with you.

The opportunity to meet with your child alone is invaluable. We feel this is as important as collecting height and weight, which we have been doing since your child was a baby.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to participate in your child's care. We look forward to seeing and hearing from you, and we value our parent-provider partnership as we support your child's health.

After age 13, your child can agree to give you limited or full online access to his or her health information by speaking with a provider. To learn more, visit childrenspeds.com/MyUPMC.