

carers and confidentiality workbook

member of staff

job title

manager

service manager

This section of the carers workbook is about confidentiality issues and sharing of information with carers, particularly to those who are providing ongoing care and support to the cared for person.

Quotation from member of Rethink

"I need to know what you are trying to achieve for my son and how you are planning to do it, so that I can play my part in his recovery"

Often practitioners are unclear as to how much information they can disclose to family, friends and carers. Many carers complain that confidentiality is used as a barrier to them being included in decision making for the cared for person.

Q1. what does the term confidentiality mean to you?

Q2. name four reasons why it is important that appropriate information is shared with carers.

1.

2.

3.

4.

Q3. what do you see as being the barriers to sharing information with carers?

Q4. how can we, as practitioners, overcome these barriers?

Q5. reflect on the following scenario and highlight the key issues in relation to confidentiality and how you would address them.

Avijit is 23 years old, has schizophrenia and is about to be discharged from hospital following treatment. Prior to being admitted to hospital his behaviour had been challenging, but now his medication has been sorted his condition has stabilised. He doesn't want his parents to be involved in his discharge meeting and says he can cope fine on his own when he goes back to the family home. Avijit's main concern is that he doesn't want his parents to know that he had been taking drugs prior to admission.

Q6. what are carers own rights in relation to information and confidentiality?

Q7. develop a good practice checklist which you can refer to when dealing with carer and confidentiality issues by completing the acronym:

C reate trust relationships

O vercome barriers to sharing information

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F

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Y

Q.8 what policies, procedures or protocols are in place within your organisation for dealing with confidentiality issues and sharing of information with carers?
