

What is confidentiality?

Confidentiality refers to the ethical duty of the physician not to disclose information learned from the patient to any other person or organization without the consent of the patient or under proper legal compulsion. The Hippocratic Oath.

What is privileged?

Privilege belongs to patient. The therapist-patient privilege "belongs" to the patient. In legal terms, it is like a piece of property. Only the patient can establish the privilege and take the necessary steps to assert or waive it. The mental health professional (MHP) must take his or her direction from the patient.

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