I'm a teen parent in Michigan...



Information for this resource provided by the Network for Public Health Law resources: www.networkforphl.org

Certain laws like the Public Health Code, the Medical Records Access Act, and HIPAA guarantee your right to healthcare access and privacy as a parenting teen. Read on for more info:

You have the right to make all healthcare decisions for your child.



If you are your child's legal parent and you are the main person in charge of their care, then you do not need the permission of any other person for your child to get healthcare.

You have the right to keep your child's healthcare records private.



If you are the legal parent of your child, then you have permission to see your child's health and medical records. The only other person who can have access to your child's records is the other legal parent. You do not have to share that information with anyone else.



You have the right to know the privacy policy for your own healthcare records and services.

If you are under 18 years old, your parent(s) or guardian(s) may be able to see your healthcare records. However, if you get services from a clinic or doctor, you can ask what their privacy policy is and they must let you know whether they will tell anyone before you get services.

If you pay for your visit by using your family's health insurance, then your parents are likely to see the bill when it arrives in the mail. Many clinics provide free or discounted services to make it easier for you to pay with cash. To make sure your visit is private, tell the clinic staff how to contact you about test results and future appointments.

You have the right to complete privacy when you get health or medical services at a Title X clinic or agency.

There are special privacy rules for clinics or health departments that are supported by the Title X federal funding program. You do not need permission from anyone to go, and no one can tell your parents or anyone else about any services you received at a Titie X clinic.

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Want to find a Title X clinic near you? Visit mi.gov/familyplanning



You have the right to apply for programs which can help you afford healthcare.

You can apply for state programs, such as Healthy Kids, that offer health and dental services for free or at a low cost for you and/or your child. You can also look at different healthcare options by searching for Michigan health care. If you are over 19 years old but under 26 years old, you may be able to stay on your parent's health insurance.



Need more support or information? Connect with health professionals, case managers, or other teen parents to learn more about your parenting rights.





Check out more info for pregnant and parenting teens by visiting mihealthyfamily.org.

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michigan organization on adolescent sexual health