

# Session 2

## Confidentiality

- If physician reveals identifying information, ask them to stop
- NEVER look up your own information on NetCare and do NOT look up info for friends on NetCare even with their consent
  - There will be an internal audit triggered even if someone has the same first or last name as you
  - There are periodic audits on every search you make on NetCare

## Gunshot and Stab Wounds

- You may give the patient's name, hospital location, and injury type but do NOT discuss what the patient says or any other detail without a court order
- Are you obligated to tell the police if you are treating a patient you think was probably involved in a crime? Which laws which pertain to these issues? (Hint: mandatory reporting of gunshot and stab wound)
  - No, you are not. You are only mandated to report gunshot and stab wounds.
- What about if the patient told you that he intended to commit a crime?
  - You need all 3 conditions to break confidentiality:
    1. Imminent risk,
    2. Serious bodily harm or death, and
    3. Identifiable individuals or groups of people targeted
  - Tarasoff 1974-76: physicians have a duty warn in some circumstances (patient told psychologist and psychiatrist of intention to kill a former gf)
  - Smith vs Jones 1999 (Jones described extreme paraphilia; sexual assaults)

## HIV Reporting

- Mandatory reporting to public health; contact tracing will be done
- Canadian Medical Protective Agency (CMPA)
- Refusal to get tested → ask public health or CMPA for advice; in meantime try to convince patient to get tested

## Minors and Ectopic Pregnancy

- Mature minor → can consider the minor with the same capacity of an adult *for this specific case*; no need for the mother to sign the consent
- Ectopic pregnancy w/ large bleeding mass is likely a medical emergency
- W/ teenagers, ask parents to leave temporarily when talking about sexual activity and drugs