



SHARP News

Patient Confidentiality and STDs

Just how confidential is your health care and your conversation with the STD-infected patient?

Should I “warn” my patients about privacy limitations?

What about the spouse who is not named as a sexual partner? Do I divulge information to the spouse anyway?

When does the Navy health care professional have a “duty to report” violations of the UCMJ?

What is the truth behind those sea-stories about “discipline” as a cure for STDs?

For answers to these and other confidentiality questions, see the *Navy Medical Surveillance Report*, Vol 6 No 3, page 14-16 (Jul-Sep 2003) online at <http://www-nehc.med.navy.mil/downloads/prevmed/JULSEP03.pdf>

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