



ADOLESCENT CARE: INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As your child grows into their teenage years, it is our job as your family's pediatric provider to talk and screen for potential problems that could impact their health. We plan for part of every annual checkup with adolescents to include confidential time between the patient and provider, and may include confidential time during other visits as needed during the year. This time will include discussion of topics such as:

- Diet, exercise and body image
- Fighting, danger and violence
- Sexuality and sexual behavior
- Safety and driving
- Smoking, drugs and alcohol
- Working/volunteering
- Depression and stress
- School/grades/peer pressure
- Dating and relationships
- Family life

As parents, you are the experts about your teen and we want to work together with you to optimize their health. However, certain health information is, by Massachusetts law, confidential. That means that if your teen talks with us about certain issues, we need their permission to talk to you about it. These include drug addiction, family planning, treatment for sexually transmitted infections, and mental health concerns. However, we will inform you if we believe there is danger of serious risk to your child's life or health.

Thank you for allowing us to care for your teen and we look forward to working together with you to keep your teen healthy and happy. We are here to answer any questions you have about the care of your adolescent.

The Physicians and Clinicians of Hyde Park Pediatrics