

MBChB Programme – Guidance on Recording of Teaching and Learning Activities and Patient Interactions

With limited exceptions, students are not permitted to record any of the Teaching and Learning (T&L) activities delivered on the MBChB programme, either on the University Campus or at any of the Clinical Education Campuses or within Community Clinical Learning Environments. There are also a number of issues students should be aware of to safely use clinical patient recordings and details about this are provided in more detail below.

1. Restrictions in the recording of Teaching and Learning Activities

The restriction on recording T&L activities includes audio, video and photographic recording, on any type of recording device such as cameras or camcorders, mobile phones or smart phones, iPads, tablet PC's or laptops. The restriction applies to all T&L activities; the reasons for this can be highlighted using the following examples:

- Team Based Learning, Problem Based Learning (PBL) and Themed Case Discussions (TCD) sessions are a discursive activity (rather than didactic teaching). The recording of PBL sessions may invade the privacy of other students in the group or may inhibit creative discussions, proving counter-productive educationally for students in the group. Furthermore, the learning acquired from observing recordings of these sessions would be limited. The benefits are gained through active participation, rather than individual observation.
- Laboratory and practical sessions, such as dissection, should not be recorded as they may contain sensitive, patient-specific or clinical materials, which are confidential. Also, students are expected to follow clear guidance and instruction in such sessions, requiring their full attention. Recording practical sessions would distract attention, cause a potential hazard and, again, learning through recorded observation is not appropriate for practical sessions.
- Didactic teaching activities, such as lectures, should not be recorded as they may contain sensitive information or images. There are also issues around breach of copyright if teaching is recorded and shared without permission. Study materials used in didactic T&L are provided to students via various media, including 1MedLearn (with any sensitive information or images removed), removing the need to record such information individually.
- Recording of other teaching sessions, including communication skills, clinical skills and seminars raise similar concerns. In addition, during Year 1 and 2 Early Clinical Experience visits and during Years 3-5 students will also be bound by the regulations of their Clinical Education Campus (CEC) Hospital Trust and the specific NHS environment / location they are attending. Such regulations must be observed and upheld at all times.

2. Regulations for students regarding patient recordings

As a medical student you must never use either personal recording devices or your University iPad (in Years 3-5) to audio record, photograph or video patients, or parts of patients, cadavers or colleagues at work or other inappropriate images. You must also never hold patient identifiable data on any device. To do so would contravene patient confidentiality regulations, local NHS policies and Medical School policy on the use of photographs and data. The University will view this as a serious breach of trust and will take appropriate disciplinary action, including a possible referral to Fitness to Practice Committee.

Using Patient Recordings as Part of a PEP Assignment or Research Study

You may be asked by a supervisor to undertake audio or visual recordings of patients or carers as part of your degree in your PEP. You must ensure that your supervisor has obtained the correct ethical approval, consent forms, recording devices and has the data storage facilities in place before you agree to undertake this. Section 4 outlines the legal and ethical requirements placed by the GMC and others on this subject. As a future doctor you are bound by these regulations but have to be under the supervision of a teacher or clinician who has completed the necessary documentation and processes. It is your responsibility to ask for the evidence that this has been done.

Sometimes medical students participate in research studies or other projects, which are not part of the MB ChB Programme. The same rules apply in these situations. You are part of the medical profession and must uphold your professional duties in all aspects of practice whether part of your degree requirements or additional work.

3. Obtaining Permission for Recording Teaching and Learning Activities

Please note: where the recording of a teaching activity forms a formal part of the session, for example the recording of a communication skills sessions, then you should follow the guidance provided by the tutors leading the particular session. There may be individual circumstances in which it is considered appropriate to record a T&L activity– most usually following a recommendation based on a formal learning support assessment. If students have a specific need for recording T&L activities, they can request permission to carry out the recording.

Permission will only be granted if:

- The tutor delivering the training gives their consent for the recording to take place;
- Recording of patients, parts of patients, carers, or cadavers is not allowed;
- All other people captured in the recording have given their consent for their images to be included in the recording (and the specific use of the recording has been made clear to them in advance);
- No sensitive materials are included in the recording, including information or images protected by copyright;
- The student(s) demonstrate understanding of the regulations for storing and using recording, only use them for the intended purpose, and destroy them after this use has been completed;

The recording will be terminated if any of the above permissions are revoked.

Before submitting an application to record a T&L activity, please note that permission will only be granted in the following circumstances:

- a) Normally, permission to record will only be granted to students who have been advised of this need, as the outcome of a formal learning support assessment;
- b) Normally, permission to record will only be granted for didactic teaching and where copyright restrictions are followed;
- c) No recording will be allowed of T&L activities in which any patient, parts of patients or carers can be identified;
- d) Recording of TBL/PBL/ TCD sessions will not be permitted under any circumstances;
- e) The signed Permission form must be present during any recording and available for checking as required.

4. Regulations for Teachers Regarding Patient Recordings

It is the responsibility of the teacher delivering the session(s) to use patient recordings responsibly and legally.

For clinicians the GMC provide guidance, which applies to patient recordings for teaching purposes as well as clinical practice.

<https://www.gmc-uk.org/ethical-guidance/ethical-guidance-for-doctors/making-and-using-visual-and-audio-recordings-of-patients/making-and-using-visual-and-audio-recordings-of-patients>

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