**Ethical Standard: Confidentiality**

Confidentiality involves preservation of authorized boundaries on accessing and disclosing of information. It includes ways of safeguarding proprietary information and personal privacy as well as making sure that access and use of information are dependable and appropriate. In healthcare, confidentiality entails the duty of professionals with access to records or communications of patients to ensure the information remains private. The law recognizes confidentiality as privileged communication taking place between two parties interacting professionally, like a doctor, clinical officer or nurse with a patient (Dewan, Goldmann & Lorenzi, 2014). Patients typically expect communication within these dealings to remain confidential. Even though its application in legal fields is dependent on evidentiary regulations and concern of the public need for information, privileged information is supported by case legislation. When dealing with sensitive health data that requires distinctive layers of discretion like the treatment of mental health, state laws offer guidance for those managing health information.

Management of electronic health information creates unique difficulties in terms of complying with regulations for ethical considerations as well as the quality of care. With the expansion of the meaningful use of health record systems and an increase in data collected, challenges for healthcare companies continue to rise (Hoyt, 2015). As such, all parties associated with health information must hold that information in esteem. Patients have rights to confidentiality regarding their health information while expecting their information to remain private and safeguarded. The public interest of citizens with regards to their health information may prevail particularly in circumstances that entail crime or public health. Striking a balance between the different aspects of health information and ensuring the upholding of security, privacy, and confidentiality present continuous and critical challenges within different legal and health care systems along with career opportunities for dealing with information management.

**References**

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