

[insert logo here]

# Teen Patient Handout



[Clinic welcome statement]

We provide quality care for teens and young adults. We want to work together with you and your family to meet all of your health care needs.

As you become more independent and take on more responsibilities, we ask for more input from **you** about your health. Oregon law allows youth at age 14 to consent to some health care services on their own. Starting at age 14 [*or other age that is standard in your clinic*], it is our practice to ask all parents and guardians to wait outside for part of your visit. This gives you and your provider a chance to discuss anything you may feel uncomfortable talking about in front of others.

**Your safety is most important to us.** Know that if you are doing anything to hurt yourself, or others, or if someone is hurting you, we may have to tell someone.

We will always encourage you to talk to your parents or guardians about your health. We can help start the conversation.

**As you begin to take more responsibility for your health care, we trust you to:**

- Learn about your medical problems, and let us know if you don't understand something we are discussing
- Follow the treatment plan that we agree upon as best as you can
- Be honest. Tell us about your medical history, health behaviors, and all medications you are taking
- Let us know when other healthcare providers are involved in your care. Ask them to send us a report whenever you see them
- Be on time for your appointments. If you are not going to keep appointments, call to reschedule or cancel them at least 24 hours in advance
- Call us if you do not receive test results within 2 weeks
- Use the "after hours" line only for issues that cannot wait until the next work day
- Come to our health center when you are sick instead of going to the Emergency Room, so that someone who knows you and your history can take care of you
- Tell us how we can improve our services

We are always available to discuss your health problems or answer questions. We want to work with you to help you make the best choices for a healthy future.

*\*Some insurance plans may mail information about our visit to your home. Talk to your provider if you are using your family's insurance and want confidential care.*