

Accessing Family/Friends' Records in PowerChart

Is it OK to look up the test results for a member of my family on PowerChart?

Yes for on-staff physicians and midlevels, and no for all other staff.

Physicians and midlevel staff are often asked by family to be involved in their care or to be a consultant. Physicians and midlevels declare a "treatment relationship" each time they enter a chart. However, if the patient would object or complain about their access, or if there is discord/divorce in the relationship, physicians or midlevel staff should not access chart out of curiosity.

On-staff Physicians/Midlevels:

You may access the electronic medical record of family members who ask you to, or for whom you are consulting.

Please note: Minors have additional state confidentiality protection. Do not access HIV testing, pregnancy testing, and psychological counseling unless you have your minor's explicit permission. To access a family member's chart as an advocate on a regular basis, please first obtain an e-authorization form from Medical Records. Only on-staff physicians/mid-levels have this privilege of using an e-authorization because physicians declare a treating relationship each time a chart is opened.

All other staff:

You may not access the electronic medical record of family members unless you have a jobrelated need to know. However, you may obtain a Release of Information and request a copy of their hardcopy medical record by contacting Munson's Medical Records.

Thank you for all you do to protect patient privacy.

