



SEXUAL BOUNDARIES IN HEALTH CARE FOR MEDICAL BOARD LICENSEES

What is sexual misconduct?



Conduct that is:

- *seductive*
- *sexually suggestive*
- *disrespectful of patient privacy*
- *sexually demeaning*

Includes: *touching any body part that has sexual connotation for any purpose other than appropriate health care services and examining or touching genitals without gloves*

Conduct with a patient that is sexual or may be reasonably interpreted as sexual, including:

- *intercourse*
- *kissing*
- *offering health care services for sexual favors*

Do not put yourself in a compromising situation



Behavior identified as sexual misconduct may result in disciplinary actions by the board as well as criminal charges



Sexual misconduct is prohibited between a licensee and patient, even if it is initiated by the patient



*Do you have
CONCERNS*

about other health care professionals or colleagues?
Contact local law enforcement immediately and file a complaint with the State Medical Board. Go to med.ohio.gov and click the "File a complaint" button. Your complaint is confidential.

Tips for a successful patient interaction

Explain what you are doing and why ◦ Give enough time for patient to disrobe in private ◦ Use proper draping practices ◦ Always knock before entering an exam room ◦ Ask the patient if they would like another person present in the room during an exam or procedure ◦ Ensure consent is given before giving an exam, consult or procedure and at each additional step ◦ Pay attention to verbal and non-verbal indications of discomfort

