Informed Consent

Required components of information giving:
1. Description of nature of the treatment
2. Associated risks (both major and frequent) and expected time of occurrence
3. Expected benefits
4. Alternative treatments
5. (Tailored to suit needs of individual patient)

Required components of consent:
1. Understanding of the information
2. Must be voluntary (persuasion is appropriate, OK for physician to express own best medical judgment)

Gorroll AH and Mulley AG, Primary Care Medicine, 4th ed, Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, 2000, p 7.

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6-29-04