

# Chaperoning

Chaperoning is an effective way of managing and maintaining professional boundaries and of managing relations with patients.

## Overview

The General Medical Council has issued guidance on intimate examinations and chaperones. In 2004, the Committee of Inquiry reviewed the role of chaperones and made the following recommendations:

- Each Trust should have its own chaperone policy and this should be made available to patients
- A managerial lead with appropriate training should be identified
- Family members or friends should not undertake the chaperoning role
- Chaperones should receive training
- The presence of a chaperone must be the clear expressed choice of the patient who also has the right to decline a chaperone

This course highlights the guidelines that should be followed when setting up a chaperone policy and how to manage it successfully.

## Key Outcomes

- To define what a chaperone is and where the role originates in a legal context
- To identify when a chaperone may be needed, what they should do, and who is and is not suitable
- Working with the clinician in the patient's interest
- The role of the patient advocate
- The chaperone policy, and what to do next

## Course Outline

- When to use a chaperone
- Recording the identity of the chaperone
- Acknowledging cultural differences
- Overcoming language barriers
- Sensitivity
- Explaining the Practice's Chaperone Policy

A formal chaperone is usually a clinical health professional, such as a nurse, or it could be a specifically trained non-clinical staff member such as a receptionist. This person will have a specific role to play during the consultation, and this role should be made clear to both the patient and the chaperone. Members of staff who undertake a formal chaperone role must undertake training so they develop the competencies required for the role.



## Key Points

- One Day Course
- Contact Enable East on 01206 287543 or email [enableeast@enableeast.org.uk](mailto:enableeast@enableeast.org.uk)