

Court: Yes, there is doctor-patient confidentiality

11 January 2018, by Dave Collins

© 2018 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.



Credit: CC0 Public Domain

Connecticut's highest court has ruled on an issue that most people may think is already settled, saying doctors have a duty to keep patients' medical records confidential and can be sued if they don't.

The Supreme Court's 6-0 decision Thursday overturned a lower court judge who said Connecticut had yet to recognize doctor-patient confidentiality.

The high court's ruling reinstated a lawsuit by former New Canaan resident Emily Byrne against the Avery Center for Obstetrics & Gynecology in Westport.

Byrne, who now lives in Montpelier, Vermont, alleged the doctor's office sent her medical file to a court without her permission—allowing the father of her child to look at it and use the information to harass her.

The Avery Center argued there is no duty for [doctors](#) to keep patients' information confidential.

APA citation: Court: Yes, there is doctor-patient confidentiality (2018, January 11) retrieved 17 August 2022 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-01-court-doctor-patient-confidentiality.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.