

Yes, HIPAA does require that social workers be very attentive to documentation and the sharing of patient data. The good news is that patients have a great deal of control of their information. The downside is that more paperwork is required that oftentimes seems unnecessary to all parties. However, there is no indication that the HIPAA requirements will be drastically reduced or changed in the near future, so it is best to become familiar with them if you are planning on an educational experience or job in the healthcare arenas.

SUMMARY

This chapter has examined different roles and contexts that the student may need to know about while in an internship. Primary focus was given to managed care, HIPAA regulations in health care settings, and evidence-based practice.

EXERCISE 5.1

Professional Boundaries

Agency supervisors have different expectations for students than they do for volunteers and for employees. Briefly contrast the roles of volunteers, students, and employees along the following dimensions:

1. Salary

Volunteer	Student	Employee
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2. Number of Hours Worked per Week

Volunteer	Student	Employee
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3. Days of the Week and Hours of the Day Work Is Done

Volunteer	Student	Employee
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4. Evaluation of Performance

Volunteer	Student	Employee
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5. Motivation for Working in the Agency

Volunteer	Student	Employee
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6. Incentives for Doing Exceptional Work

Volunteer	Student	Employee
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7. Having to Deal with Clients' Problems after Hours

Volunteer	Student	Employee
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