

sexual activity. Since Ebony only knows Luke as a patient, she doesn't know if he has disclosed his HIV status to Tamara or has the intention to disclose his status prior to sexual contact.

The dinner event has rapidly evolved from an expected first introduction to an ethical dilemma. Ebony is perplexed and is unsure of what to do. Ebony fully understands that Luke has a right to have his health information protected, and, as a registered nurse (RN), she has a duty to advocate for patient rights. On a personal level, Ebony wants to do everything in her power to protect the well-being of her best friend. During the meal, all she can think about is the "worst case" scenario. Ebony knows that disclosing Luke's status will certainly result in the termination of her employment as well as jeopardize her career as a nurse.

Tamara excuses herself from the table to listen to a voicemail from her boss regarding her recent project proposal. As soon as Tamara is out of earshot, Luke looks at Ebony and says, "I know who you are and where you work, and I expect you to keep my medical information confidential and not speak with Tamara regarding any of my health issues." Ebony politely responds with "I am also trusting that you will be responsible in your actions and protect my friend from undue harm or risk." As Tamara is walking back to the table, Luke tells Ebony, "What we do behind closed doors is our business."