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How should i ask for consent?

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Background & Aims: Recently, focus of medical education in clinical contexts has increased. This led to a diversification of learning interfaces, in order to make the process of identifying anatomic structures and pathologies easier. On the other hand, the number of students in medical training has also increased and some legal and ethical issues about the asking for consent have been theme for discussion on medical community. Then, how should we properly ask for informed consent?

Methods: In this paper, we explored the importance of asking for consent for purposes of investigation and medical education and its limitations, as well as its moral and legal implications, performing a revision of the published literature of different countries, including Portugal.

Results: There are various interests and rights of different people involved. Above of that all, we need to take in account all the connections with the laws and normatives of the country and religious and moral questions and take a position about the principle that may prevail, the autonomy or the benevolence. This situation provokes, naturally, profound moral conflicts.

Conclusions: It seems clear to us that changes should be performed in the actual legislation in order to conciliate the principles of autonomy and benevolence and explain the methodology for getting informed consent. Finishing, this can only be done after an education of the population that may be achieved by inserting this topic in basic education.

Keywords: Consent, Informed Consent, Medical Education