

Professional Accountability



The Data Protection Act (1998) permits the processing of personal sensitive data, where:

- The processing is necessary for medical purposes, and is undertaken by a health professional or by someone who is subject to an equivalent duty of confidentiality.

Thus, if you are unable to obtain the patient's permission, and if you are sure you have a reasonable justification for accessing the OCS, you may do so, but you must be able to account for your actions, and you should inform the patient whenever possible