

## **Appendix 1 – Consent forms to be used in the Family Attachment scheme**

Your GP tutor will explain to you some of the issues involved in obtaining consent from patients. For consent to be *informed*, patients must know and understand what it is they are consenting to. This therefore entails a good comprehensible explanation followed by a checking with the patient that they have understood. This is often done by asking patients to relate back to you what you have told them.

There are different levels of consent appropriate to different situations. Most medical interviews are conducted based on *implied consent*. That means that by the very act of the patient consulting the doctor, the patient is consenting to be interviewed. This might also be extended to a simple physical examination. For more intimate examinations or invasive procedures, a more explicit verbal consent or even written consent might be required.

You will have the opportunity to discuss issues about obtaining consent in your tutorial group. You should remember that when you are contacting patients you are their guest so obtaining consent to interview is also important from the point of view of showing respect for the patient.

Your GP tutor will guide you in the levels of consent, which should be obtained, and how you should go about doing this.

### **Examples:**

Verbal consent at each contact ...e.g. “would it be alright with you if we asked you some more questions about your health”

**Written consent**

Preliminary Consent:

I / We \_\_\_\_\_

(Name(s))

of \_\_\_\_\_

(Address)

do hereby consent to receiving contacts from:

First year medical students

I / we understand that the purpose of their contacts is to learn about our medical and social history to the extent I am prepared to divulge. I understand that the students will keep what they learn from me confidential and will not divulge this to others excepting in the context of a teaching session.

I / we are happy to allow the students to consult my medical notes under the supervision of the General Practitioner Tutor. I understand I can withdraw this permission at any time.