

U-CARE: Public Access to Information and Secrecy

The Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act (SFS 2009:400) applies to all U-CARE staff. According to Chapter 24 8§ as well as 7§ of the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Ordinance, secrecy shall apply within medical studies concerning any personal circumstances. According to Chapter 25 § 1, secrecy shall apply within health and medical service concerning any private party's health or other personal circumstances unless it is manifestly evident that the information may be disclosed without the private party or a person closely related to him being harmed.

As a U-CARE employee you may encounter or have access to sensitive information about persons in U-CARE studies and U-CARE Healthcare. Participants, whose data we have access to in office, should always be able to trust that data about their personal circumstances is not dispensed to unauthorized persons. Therefore we have Professional Secrecy.

Professional Secrecy also applies after your employment is ended. Basically, everything you as an employee get to know about an individual is protected by Professional Secrecy. All data about health and personal circumstances is protected. If you as a part of your job encounter information about an individual you may not discuss it with your colleagues if it is not necessary to solve the task you are working on. Many tasks are possible to solve with de-identified data, this should be done when possible, e.g., in data analysis and development of the U-CARE-portal.

For more information regarding rules about U-CARE Healthcare, please consult the handbook *U-CARE Vård Handbok för personal*, s. 8-10.

There are situations where we must give out classified information and we are exempt from Professional Secrecy e.g., if the information is requested by agencies such as the National Board of Health or the Police.

If you are unsure of how to act in a particular situation, please contact the director of U-CARE Healthcare if the matter is health related, or the Research Coordinator if the matter is related to research or the U-CARE Portal.

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