

Doctors angry over secret filming by patients

19th June 2025



Many doctors in the UK are angry because of people filming them on their smartphones. The Society of Radiographers (SoR), a medical organization in the UK, said patients are secretly using their phones to film their hospital visits and talks with doctors. The videos are then posted on social media sites. The SoR has called for a ban on video recording in hospitals and clinics. Dean Rogers, director of industrial strategy, said this was a problem that affected many health workers. He said there could also be privacy concerns for other people. He told reporters: "As healthcare professionals, we need to think: Does that recording breach the confidentiality of other patients?"

Medical staff and hospital workers say they are worried about the videos. They do not want to have videos of them uploaded on social media. Ashley d'Aquino, a therapeutic radiographer and union worker, spoke about this problem. She said: "We had a member of staff who agreed to take photos for a patient, but when the patient handed over her phone, the member of staff saw that the patient had also been [secretly] recording her, to publish on a cancer blog." She added: "We wear name badges, so our names will be visible in any video. It makes people feel very uncomfortable and anxious." Putting material online also risks making public the private medical data of patients.

Sources: independent.co.uk / sor.org / bbc.com

Writing

Smartphones should not be allowed in hospitals. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

doctors / angry / smartphones / medical / social media / video / hospital / privacy / medical staff / union / photos / patients / secret recordings / blog / anxious / data

True / False

- 1) Smartphones make all doctors in the UK angry. T / F
- 2) The article says many hospitals have banned smartphones. T / F
- 3) A man said smartphones are affecting the mental health of doctors. T / F
- 4) The man said smartphones in hospitals come with worries about privacy. T / F
- 5) Hospital workers are not worried about smartphone videos. T / F
- 6) A hospital worker took a video of a patient. T / F
- 7) A patient took a video she wanted to upload onto a cancer blog. T / F
- 8) Uploading videos could mean people see private medical information. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. angry | a. gave |
| 2. organization | b. uploaded |
| 3. posted | c. workers |
| 4. affected | d. easily seen |
| 5. concerns | e. furious |
| 6. staff | f. worried |
| 7. handed over | g. worries |
| 8. visible | h. group |
| 9. anxious | i. information |
| 10. data | j. troubled |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What problems are there with filming things on smartphones?
- c) What do you upload videos of?
- d) What would you do if someone secretly filmed you?
- e) Should hospital staff not wear name badges?
- f) What can hospitals do to protect privacy?
- g) Has anyone ever secretly filmed you?
- h) What questions would you like to ask doctors about secret filming?

Phrase Match

1. patients are secretly
 2. The SoR has called for a ban
 3. there could also be privacy
 4. healthcare
 5. breach the confidentiality
 6. a member of
 7. the patient handed
 8. publish on a cancer
 9. We wear name
 10. the private medical
- a. staff
 - b. professionals
 - c. of other patients
 - d. blog
 - e. badges
 - f. on video recording
 - g. data of patients
 - h. over her phone
 - i. concerns
 - j. using their phones

Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you think of smartphones?
- b) Should smartphones be banned in hospitals?
- c) What do you take videos of on your smartphone?
- d) Should people who secretly take videos go to prison?
- e) How stressful do you think being a doctor is?
- f) Are you worried about your private health data?
- g) How important is confidentiality in hospitals?
- h) What advice do you have for doctors and medical staff?

Spelling

1. a lemaicd organization
2. director of industrial grysteta
3. a problem that aedtfcfe many health workers
4. yapicrv concerns
5. healthcare sofenisrplaos
6. baehrc the confidentiality of other patients
7. uloepdad on social media
8. a member of sftaf
9. We wear name sbdega
10. our names will be ysbliie in any video
11. feel very uncomfortable and xuosain
12. Putting tilarame online

Answers – Synonym Match

1. e	2. h	3. b	4. j	5. g
6. c	7. a	8. d	9. f	10. i

Comprehension Questions

Listen to / read the news article. Answer these questions.
(Answers are on p. 27 of the 27-page PDF.)

1.	What kind of organization is the Society of Radiographers?
2.	Where are patients posting their videos of hospital visits?
3.	What has the Society of Radiographers called for?
4.	Who did Dean Rogers talk to?
5.	What might smartphone videos in hospitals breach?
6.	What did a hospital worker agree to do for a patient?
7.	What did a patient hand to a hospital worker?
8.	What did a staff member say people wear?
9.	Where are people worried their names might be visible?
10.	What private thing could be made public by the videos?

Speaking – Smartphones

Rank these with your partner. Put the best dangers of smartphones at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Anxiety
- Radiation
- Eye damage
- Addiction
- Lack of exercise
- Lack of conversation
- Cyberbullying
- Lack of sleep

Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	F	4	T	5	F	6	F	7	T	8	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.