

Michael Schumacher medical records 'for sale'

26th June, 2014



Shocking though it may seem, someone has stolen the medical records of Formula 1 legend Michael Schumacher and could be offering them for sale to the highest bidder. The F1 driver's manager Sabine Kehm told journalists that she wasn't sure whether the person trying to sell the records actually had them. She reiterated that she would press charges if anyone bought or published

the genuine documents. She said: "The contents of any medical files are totally private and confidential and must not be made available to the public. We will therefore, in every single case, press for criminal charges and damages against any publication of the content or reference to the medical file."

The seven-time F1 champion has only just been brought out of a coma after suffering a traumatic head injury in a skiing accident in the French Alps on 29 December. Sky Sports News correspondent Craig Slater reported on how lax the security was at Mr Schumacher's hospital. He said: "Security was very scant indeed and it was distressing. The family had to run a gauntlet of paparazzi every day when they arrived at the hospital, despite repeated pleas for the media to take a step back and to respect Michael Schumacher's privacy as a patient and a human being." He added that it was sad the family now faced seeing Michael's medical notes "potentially being auctioned over the Internet".

Sources: BBC / SkySports / Deutsche Welle

Writing

All personal information in hospitals should be digital and not hand-written. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

shocking / medical records / the highest bidder / documents / confidential / criminal / champion / head injury / security / paparazzi / media / privacy / auctioned

True / False

- A hospital is selling the medical records of its patients. T / F
- Michael Schumacher's manager isn't sure the "seller" has the records. T / F
- The manager will start criminal charges against any buyers of the data. T / F
- The manager said it would be OK for publishers to refer to the file. T / F
- Schumacher had a terrible skiing accident at the beginning of this year. T / F
- Sky News said security at Mr Schumacher's hospital was very tight. T / F
- Mr Schumacher's family is having problems with media photographers. T / F
- Mr Schumacher's is sad his medical records could be sold online. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. seem | a. reporter |
| 2. sure | b. authentic |
| 3. actually | c. upsetting |
| 4. genuine | d. insufficient |
| 5. confidential | e. appear |
| 6. traumatic | f. really |
| 7. correspondent | g. appeals |
| 8. scant | h. classified |
| 9. distressing | i. shocking |
| 10. pleas | j. certain |

Discussion – Student A

- Are we becoming a world in which everything must have security?
- What do you think of the paparazzi?
- Should the police do anything to keep the paparazzi away from famous people?
- In what ways do famous people lack privacy and a 'normal' life?
- Do you think paparazzi care about a hospital patient's privacy?
- Do newspapers disrespect privacy by writing about people?
- How easy would it be to find the seller and buyer online?
- What questions would you like to ask the hospital boss?

Breaking News English - The Mini Lesson

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Shocking though | a. case |
| 2. Formula 1 | b. of a coma |
| 3. totally private | c. legend |
| 4. in every single | d. gauntlet of paparazzi |
| 5. press for criminal charges | e. and confidential |
| 6. brought out | f. head injury |
| 7. suffering a traumatic | g. it may seem |
| 8. how lax the | h. over the Internet |
| 9. The family had to run a | i. security was |
| 10. being auctioned | j. and damages |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What kind of person would steal and sell medical records?
- Do you worry about your confidential information?
- What should the punishment be for the thief and any buyer?
- What would anyone hope to gain by publishing these records?
- How long a file would your medical records be?
- What private information is there on you in various agencies?
- What do you know about Michael Schumacher?

Spelling

- the highest drdbie
- She eetedritar that she would press charges
- the ngeieun documents
- made bavelaila to the public
- any nuicbtliaop of the content
- rneceef to the medical file
- suffering a atmtricia head injury
- Sky Sports News osrnepntcoerd
- it was tidsirseng
- run a letgnaut of paparazzi every day
- respect Michael Schumacher's ypvrcia
- medical notes "tnoiyealptl being auctioned

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Role Play

Role A – Medical records

You think medical records are the hardest things to keep safe. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their thing is easier to keep safe. Also, tell the others which is the most secure of these (and why): Internet passwords, homes or credit cards.

Role B – Internet passwords

You think Internet passwords are the hardest things to keep safe. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their thing is easier to keep safe. Also, tell the others which is the most secure of these (and why): medical records, homes or credit cards.

Role C – Homes

You think homes are the hardest things to keep safe. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their thing is easier to keep safe. Also, tell the others which is the most secure of these (and why): Internet passwords, medical records or credit cards.

Role D – Credit cards

You think credit cards are the hardest things to keep safe. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their thing is easier to keep safe. Also, tell the others which is the most secure of these (and why): Internet passwords, homes or medical records.

Speaking – Private

Rank these with your partner. Put the most private things at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| • your age | • your marital status |
| • your weight | • your salary |
| • your address | • your Facebook account |
| • your date of birth | • your dream |

Answers – True False

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | F | b | T | c | T | d | F | e | F | f | F | g | T | h | T |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.