**PROVIDER SCRIPT FOR ALONE TIME *|* THE *“PARENT-ECTOMY”***

**At the start of the exam, set the stage for how the visit will happen:**

* “Since your child is a new teen (or ”Since it’s your first time with us” or “Since we’re doing a teen appointment today”), let me tell you about how all adolescent visits happen in our health center.”
* “First, the three of us meet together and discuss *<Patient’s>* health history from birth on up, and see if there are any current issues going on.”
* “Then I’ll ask you [mom/dad/guardian] to step out of the room, in order to talk to *<Patient>* alone for a little bit and do the physical exam.”
* “Once the physical exam is done, you‘ll come back in to wrap up our time together.”
* “Are there any concerns or health topics you have in mind that you’d like me to discuss with *<Patient>* when we talk one-on-one today?“
* “We both want him/her to be safe and healthy, and during my time alone with him/her that will be my ultimate goal.”

**Diffusion strategies if parent pushes back:**

* “I understand it is a bit of a change when your child starts going through adolescence.”
* “He/she needed you to stay in the room when they were younger.”
* “He/she didn’t know her health history and he/she was probably a little nervous to be around the doctor.”
* “But at *13 (or other age),* it really is developmentally appropriate for *<Patient>* to spend some time with a provider alone.”
* “He/she does need to start taking some responsibility for his/her own health.”
* “One-on-one time gives me a chance to talk with *<Patient>* about puberty, and how his/her body might be changing right now, during adolescence.”
* “Plus, it is also our clinic’s practice that we routinely spend some of the visit alone with every adolescent.”
* “How you feel makes a lot of sense, *<Parent>*. I am a parent too *[if true]* and I want my kids talk to me about everything that is going on in their lives. But I recognize there are things kids don’t feel comfortable talking about with their parents. So, if my kids couldn’t come to me, I would certainly want to know there was another responsible adult they could talk with -- like their healthcare provider. At least that way I would know they are getting factual information and if they were in any kind of danger they would get the help that they needed.”

**Diffusion strategies if parent says they did risky things when they were a teen:**

* “I hear what you are saying, and know you care for *<Patient>* a great deal and that you want to protect him/her.”
* “It must be very difficult seeing him/her at the age you were when you started to experiment and maybe take risks.”
* “You need to know what a strong influence you are on him/her and on the decisions he/she is making on the way to becoming an adult. You have been waiting all these years for him/her to become an adult. I am sure it is very scary right now, but this is one of those steps and I think it is really important.”