

# Gender, Sex and Sexual Orientation Health Information Standard and Guide



## Purpose...

**Address** socioeconomic determinants of health.  
**Improve** health outcomes.  
**Provide** respectful and culturally safer care.  
**Modernize** information practices.  
**Align** with human rights legislation.



## Digital Health Systems

Gender and sex are **different concepts**.  
Most **Health Information Systems conflate sex and gender** by using a single sex/gender field for both administrative and clinical uses.  
**Constrains functionality and limits effective use.**



## Affirming Communication

**Name Used** is specified by the patient and used for clinical interactions.  
**Pronouns** are linguistic tools; part of gender expression; use them when referring to people.  
**Gender Identity:** man, woman, nonbinary, more...



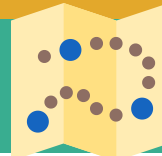
## Gender Used and Sex at Birth

**Health Services Sex or Gender** is for single field systems.  
**Sex at Birth** is based on chromosomal, anatomical, hormonal features.  
**Gender Used** is what the patient wishes to be used for identification and obtaining services.



## Sex Parameter for Clinical Use (SPCU)

Designed to enable clinicians to specify context to support decision making by alerting them to specific context such as sex-related anatomic or surgical entries, medication statements or other sex-related artefacts.



## Guidance

Sex and gender are **different concepts**.  
Gender Used may be appropriate for clinical care.  
**Gender Identity** must be identified by the patient.  
Gender data should be displayed by **default**. SPCU provides **necessary context** when required.