



Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)



At UPMC, we treat all individuals with dignity and respect. We are committed to providing the best care for every patient, the right way, every time. All are welcome here.

Getting to Know You



At UPMC, we have a wonderfully diverse patient population. Our goal is to make sure all patients are treated with dignity and respect and have their individual needs met while feeling safe and accepted during their care.



A routine part of every 'history and physical' is your sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). Maintaining this information is an important part of everyone's medical care and can impact medical decisions. All patients are asked for this information so we can give care that is personalized, relevant, and sensitive to your needs.



Our outpatient electronic health record and patient portals, MyUPMC and UPMC Central Pa. portal include areas for the name you use, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

Questions We Will Ask

What is your sexual orientation?

Sexual orientation describes a person's physical and emotional attraction to others. Some examples include heterosexual (straight), gay, lesbian, and bisexual.

What is your gender identity?

Gender identity describes a person's inner sense of gender. A person may think of themselves as male, female, a combination of both, neither, or as another gender. Some examples include cisgender, transgender, genderqueer, and non-binary.

What name would you like us to use?

This name is what you want your health care providers and staff to call you, regardless of your legal name. This can be as simple as your given name is Jonathan Smith Jr., and you want to be called John, or Junior. It can also be a completely different name. This name will be used to address you during your visit in the outpatient setting and when you log into your portal account. If you have given proxy access to your account, they will only see your legal name.

What pronouns do you use?

Using the correct personal pronouns shows respect and creates an inclusive environment. We want to know if you use pronouns like they/them, she/her, he/him, or something else.

How We Will Collect and Use This Information

To ensure your privacy, your provider will ask you for this information in an exam room or their office. At future visits, front desk staff will greet you by the name you use and only clinical providers who need to know your sexual orientation and gender identity will have that information.

This information is available to most providers and staff in the UPMC doctor network. Your information may not yet be available in areas such as when in the hospital or at the Hillman Cancer Centers.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Who will see the information I provide about my sexual orientation, gender identity, and the name I use?

At UPMC, confidentiality is always a top priority. Only clinical staff can see your sexual orientation and gender identity as part of your outpatient medical record.

Front desk staff and other support staff will be able to see the name you use. If you have given proxy access, your loved one will only see your legal name.

Only your legal name and sex will be shared with 3rd party agencies such as your insurance.

Do I have to share this information?

You are encouraged to share this information, but you are not required to do so. You may answer the questions, or you may say, "I prefer not to answer."

Can I update or add this information to my patient portal?

Yes, you can add or update your SOGI information on MyUPMC or the UPMC Central Pa. portal.

- **MyUPMC** - To share your SOGI information, click Health Summary and select Health Resources. To update the name that you use, select your Profile under Account Settings.
- **UPMC Central Pa. Portal** - Select Personal Information under Account Settings and click Edit Details About Me.

More SOGI Resources

- UPMC Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual/Aromantic/Agender (LGBTQIA+) resources at [UPMC.com/LGBTQ](https://www.upmc.com/LGBTQ)
- Resources for Youth at [CHP.edu/LGBTQ](https://www.chp.edu/LGBTQ) and [Advocatesforyouth.org](https://www.advocatesforyouth.org)
- The Human Rights Campaign's (HRC) Glossary of Terms at [hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms](https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms)
- The National LGBTQIA+ Health Education Center at [lgbtqiahealtheducation.org](https://www.lgbtqiahealtheducation.org)
- HRC's Health Equality Index at [hrc.org/hei](https://www.hrc.org/hei)

For LGBTQ-related concerns, please email LGBTQHealth@upmc.edu.

UPMC policy prohibits discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, limited English proficiency, ancestry, national origin, age, gender, genetics, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital, familial, disability status or status as a covered veteran or any other legally protected status. Further, UPMC will continue to support and promote equal employment opportunity, human dignity, and racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity. This policy applies to admissions, visitation, employment, and access to and treatment in UPMC programs and activities. This commitment is made by UPMC in accordance with federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations.