Help Us Serve YOU Better

What information are we looking for?
Hospitals across New York will be asking questions about your age, gender, ethnicity, race, address, city, state and zip code to ensure that patients are receiving appropriate care of the best quality.

Why are the questions being asked?
We can better meet the needs of the communities that we serve if we know more about our patients, their cultures and their languages. This information will only be used to make sure that all patients are receiving the best care possible.

How will this information be used?
We will use the information that we collect from all patients to ensure that we understand the needs of the population we serve and to make sure that people have care that is culturally appropriate.

Our goal is to meet the needs of all of the patients we serve. We can achieve this goal by providing interpreter services, offering patient information translated into different languages, and making sure that our staff provide culturally appropriate care.

What if you don’t want to share this information?
It is your decision to share this information. This is only being collected to help us better serve you.

Are these questions being asked at other hospitals?
Yes. There are new state regulations requiring all hospitals in New York to collect this information. We are collecting this information as part of a statewide effort to improve the health of all.

Adapted by New York State Department of Health and the University at Albany School of Public Health from the Collaborative Effort of Massachusetts Hospital Association, the Boston Public Health Commission, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Division of Health Care Finance and Policy, Robin Weinick of the Disparities Solutions Center at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Cambridge Health Alliance.