

## Patient Demographic Information FAQs

### Why is Valley Medical Group collecting this?

To meet each patient's unique health needs, we need up-to-date information, including demographics. This helps us ensure accessible, high-quality services for everyone we care for. In addition to our providers, the insurance companies we work with (Medicare, MassHealth, Health New England, etc.) require us to collect this information. If you would like to discuss anything on your form, your provider welcomes your questions.

### Do I have to answer these questions? What if there is a specific question that I don't want to answer?

You do not need to answer any of these questions if you do not want to. You can decline any question.

### Who will see my information? How will it be shared?

All of your healthcare information, including your demographics, is legally protected by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Valley Medical Group staff and practitioners have access to your information as is required to take care of you.

### SOME DEFINITIONS

<b>RACE</b>	<b>If you identify with more than one race, you can select all races that apply to you.</b>
Asian	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, or Vietnam
Black or African-American	A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. Includes subcategories such as Haitian and Somali
Middle Eastern/North African	A person having origins in any of the original peoples in the Middle East, or North Africa
Native American / Alaska Native	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands
White	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe
Other	A race other than the ones listed above

<b>ETHNICITY</b>	
Hispanic/Latino Origin	A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race
Not Hispanic or Latino	A person who is not of Hispanic or Latino origin
Other	If you wish to share your ethnicity other than Hispanic/Latino and non-Hispanic/Non-Latino
Unknown	Ethnicity is unknown to you

## Patient Demographic Information FAQs

<b>GENDER IDENTITY</b>	
Female	Describes people assigned female at birth who have a female gender identity
Male	Describes people assigned male at birth who have a male gender identity
Gender non-conforming/Non-binary	Describes people whose gender identity is beyond the traditional binary of girl/woman and boy/man
Transgender female	Describes people assigned male at birth who have a female gender identity
Transgender male	Describes people assigned female at birth who have a male gender identity
Other	Is an option for people whose gender identity is not listed in the response options provided
Choose not to disclose	Is an option for people who do not wish to share at this time

<b>SEX ASSIGNED AT BIRTH</b>	
	Is the sex assigned to an infant and written on the original birth certificate. Sex assigned at birth can be female, male, or X/another sex
X/Intersex	Intersex is a general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male
Choose not to disclose	Is an option for people who do not wish to share at this time

<b>PRONOUNS</b>	
	Pronouns are the words we use to refer to someone without using that person's name. Examples of pronouns are she/her/hers, he/him/his, and they/them/theirs.

<b>SEXUAL ORIENTATION</b>	
Lesbian, Gay, or Homosexual	Describes a person who is emotionally & physically attracted to others of the same sex
Straight or heterosexual	Describes women who are mainly emotionally & physically attracted to men, and men who are mainly emotionally & physically attracted to women
Bisexual/ Pansexual	Describes people who are emotionally and/or physically attracted to people of all genders or whose attractions are not related to gender identity
Queer	Describes people who think of their sexual orientation as outside of societal norms
Other	Is an option for people whose sexual orientation is not listed in the response options provided
Choose not to disclose	Is an option for people who do not wish to share at this time