

Reference:	FOI.13290.23
Subject:	Gender options on patient forms
Date of Request:	1 December 2023

Requested:

Please provide a list of all gender options you list on patient forms.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

The UHB does not hold a central record of all patient forms. Therefore, in order to provide you with all of the requested data, the UHB would be required to undertake a manual trawl of all patient forms held, across all of its departments and services, to identify the information that would fulfil your request.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the FoIA, which provides an exemption from a public authority’s obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

However, under section 16 of the FoIA, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds below.

All national systems should adopt the national data definitions as identified in the NHS Wales Data Dictionary values.

NHS Wales Data Dictionary definition for Gender:- The gender of a client (as stated by the client).

Gender identity is a person's sense of identification with either the male or female sex, as manifested in appearance, behaviour, and other aspects of a person's life.

NHS Wales Data Dictionary definition for Sex:- This is the sex of person, employee or patient.

The items below are used for gender and sex. Both gender and sex are labels often used interchangeably, which they are not with the latter being ‘at birth’.

Value	Meaning
1	Male
2	Female
9	Not Specified

Examples of exceptions within national datasets exist for some datasets:-

a. Sexual Health Services in Wales

Gender Identity	Gender identity of patient as stated by the patient.	Male
	Male includes trans man	Female
	Female includes trans woman	Non-binary
	Non-binary denotes the gender of a person who does not identify as Male or Female	In another way
		Not disclosed or unknown

b. Digitisation of Nursing Documentation: Adult Inpatient Assessment

Code	Description
F	Female
M	Male
N	Non-binary*
Z	Not disclosed or unknown, e.g. for unborn baby

*For use in recording the gender of a person who does not identify as F or M