

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PEDIATRIC SOGI-P SCREENING IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS

Please find below the recommendations of the Pediatric Primary Care Clinical Council (includes 75 pediatric professionals across the MultiCare system) with respect to the following submitted questions:

1. At what age should we begin screening pediatric patients with the questions related to sexual orientation and gender identity/pronouns”

The council recommends that we begin collecting this data by directly asking the pediatric patient at age 13 years. (Some exceptions may be made in the case of developmentally delayed patients). This recommendation is also consistent with the first clinical guidelines published for collecting pediatric sexual orientation and gender identity data, [Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association](#).

2. Please provide recommendations related to Process Standards for collection:

The goal is to provide a consistent psychologically safe environment/experience for parents and children. To accomplish this, the registration area should offer enough privacy to allow that questions asked verbally cannot be overheard by others and such that the patient is queried directly but in a private setting from parent/guardian. If this is not possible, these questions should be asked and answered via a written form. Scripting should include the why to avoid any potential misinterpretation by patients as well as the option to decline from responding.

3. In addition to guarding confidentiality in the clinic setting, provide recommendations on preserving Patient Confidentiality:

Verify that Patient Portal proxy access does not allow the parent to view gender identity after the child has turned 13. If verified, we believe that waiting until this age to begin screening avoids a potential inadvertent breach in patient confidentiality.