

Name:

Chart:

Date:

MEANINGFUL USE DEMOGRAPHICS FORM

Why do we ask our patients about their race, ethnicity, and preferred language?

We have recently begun to ask our patients to identify their race, ethnicity and preferred language. If you are uncomfortable answering these questions, you should feel free to decline to answer, and we will not ask you again.

The federal government is promoting adoption of electronic health records, and one of their requirements for “meaningful use” of electronic health records is the ability to collect information about the race and ethnicity of our patients to measure and minimize care disparities based on these characteristics.

Extensive scientific research shows that disparities in the quality and outcomes of health care correlate with patients’ race and ethnicity. The Health Resources and Services Administration defines these health disparities as “population-specific differences in the presence of disease, health outcomes, or access to health care.” Recent new studies indicate that the first step toward addressing health disparities involves collecting this type of data and linking this information to health care quality, safety, and utilization.

Please circle one answer for each category or check box at bottom to decline:

Race Choices

African American/Black
American Indian
Asian
Native Hawaiian
White
Other

Ethnicity Choices

Hispanic/Latino Origin
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino Origin
Other

Language Choices

Arabic	Korean
Armenian	Persian
Chinese	Polish
English	Portuguese
French / Creole	Russian
German	Spanish
Greek	Tagalog
Gujarati	Urdu
Hebrew	Vietnamese
Hindi	Yiddish
Italian	Other
Japanese	

Decline to answer