

# Changes expected with new BC Health Information Standard Gender, Sex and Sexual Orientation

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The BC government is currently seeking feedback on its recently released [Gender, Sex and Sexual Orientation Health Information Standard](#).

This standard supports a consistent and modern approach to gender and sex information practices within BC's health-care community by providing context and guidance for modern representation and disaggregation of administrative and clinical sex and gender concepts.

It includes descriptions of useful data elements such as gender identity, name used, pronouns and sex (parameters) for clinical use and sets the stage for the standardization of new sex-related anatomic inventories, sex-related hormonal inventories, and sex-related surgical procedure lists. Once developed, these new tools will enhance care by supporting accurate, assumption-free, standardized representation of a patient's sex-related anatomy, hormone status, and surgical history.

Any collection and use of this information is restricted to purposes authorized under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA)* or under the *Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA)*. Gender and sex information is personal information and should only be collected in a manner that maintains privacy.

Once this standard is finalized, the College's accreditation programs expect to align accreditation requirements such as requisitions and reporting to the standard. Additional information about this

standard will be communicated in the coming months.