



# Healthcare Provider Best Practices To Improve Experiences for LGBTQ+ Patients

Do not make assumptions about gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, or medical history. Provide open answer/prefer not to answer responses on intake forms.

Avoid asking questions related to a patient's perceived or documented LGBTQ+ identity that are not medically relevant to the issues being treated.

Ask patients what their medical needs and preferences are and tailor care accordingly when possible.

Treat patients from the perspective of caring for a human body, rather than a person of a particular sex or gender.

When a patient discloses their LGBTQ+ identity, consider your reaction and be aware of body language, facial expressions, and other actions that could be perceived as reactive or judgemental.

Reduce the need for patients to "come out" and disclose their LGBTQ+ identity to multiple providers repeatedly. Seek patient permission to include a note and coordinate access across providers.

To read the full industry report, *Considerations for LGBTQ+ Inclusion in Clinical Research* [click here.](#)

