



INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Collecting information about your ethnic group

Everyone belongs to an ethnic group, so all our patients and service users are being asked to describe their ethnic group.

We are collecting this information to help the our Trust and the NHS :

- Understand the needs of patients and service users from different groups and so provide better and more appropriate services for you
- Identify risk factors – some groups are more at risk of specific diseases and care needs so ethnic group data can help treat patients and support service users by alerting staff to high-risk groups.
- Improve public health by making sure that our services are reaching all of our local communities and that we are delivering our services fairly to everyone who needs them.
- Comply with the law as the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 gives public authorities a duty to promote race equality and good race relations and ethnic monitoring is important in making sure that race discrimination is not taking place.

The list of groups is designed to allow most people to identify themselves.

You do not have to answer the question but providing this information is very important. It will help us with diagnosis and assessment of your needs, and it will also help us to plan and improve our service. Experience shows that when people are asked their ethnic group, the proportion of people who choose not to answer is small.

The information you provide will be treated as part of your confidential NHS or care notes and will not be shared with any other person or organisation. The NHS and social services have strict standards regarding data protection and your information will be carefully safeguarded.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding this request or you want to make any comments about the collection of this information please contact our Trust Patient Advice and Liaison Officer, on 0151-702-4353.

This leaflet is available on our website at www.lwh.org.uk.

This leaflet can be made available in other formats if required.