

**Race, Ethnicity, and Language Data
Standardization for Health Care Quality Improvement**

The subcommittee has proposed a standardized framework for the collection of race, ethnicity, and language data for use in efforts to improve the quality of health care. This framework combines the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) race and Hispanic ethnicity categories with categories for granular ethnicity and language need selected at the local level from national standard sets. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is a prime locus of the subcommittee's recommendations for implementation of these improvements because of its focus on resolving disparities in health and health care and its history of promoting the collection of race, ethnicity, and language data to ensure compliance with applicable statutes and regulations. Other federal agencies that deliver health care, states, accreditation and standards-setting organizations, and professional medical groups all have roles to play in ensuring adoption and utilization.

Ethnicity and race information is requested under the authority of 42 U.S.C. Section 2000e-16 and in compliance with the Office Management and Budget's 1997 Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity. Providing this information is voluntary and has no impact on your treatment, but in the instance of missing information, your medical practice will attempt to identify your race and ethnicity by visual observation.

This information is used as necessary to plan for equal treatment opportunity throughout the Federal government. It is also used by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management to locate individuals for personnel research or survey response and in the production of summary descriptive statistics and analytical studies in support of the function for which the records are collected and maintained.

Ethnicity and Race Identification:

The three questions below are designed to identify your ethnicity and race. **Please answer all three questions.**

Question 1. What is your preferred language? English Spanish Other _____
(The language you prefer to speak on a daily basis.)

Question 2. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
(A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.)

Question 3. Please select the racial category/ies with which you most closely identify

American Indian/Alaska Native
A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America, and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Asian
A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast, Asia, or the Indian subcontinent i

Black/African American
A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Island .

White
A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.