

Attachment 4

Name and title

Both electronic and paper medical records should clearly indicate your patient's preferred name and title.

Sex

A patient's request to change the sex indicated on their medical records should be respected; they do not have to have been granted a Gender Recognition Certificate or have acquired an updated birth certificate for this to be changed.

NHS number

If your patient is to be issued with a new NHS number which has no reference to their sex at birth, you should explain to them that they will not automatically be contacted regarding current or future screening programmes associated with their sex at birth, and discuss the implications of this. Decisions about screening should be made with patients in the same way as any other decisions about their health.

Disclosing gender history

It is unlawful to disclose a patient's gender history without their consent.

When communicating with other health professionals, gender history doesn't need to be revealed unless it is directly relevant to the condition or its likely treatment.

The gender status or history of trans and non-binary people should be treated with the same level of confidentiality as any other sensitive personal information.

However there will be circumstances where it is appropriate to disclose this information - with your patient's consent - so that the service you are referring to is aware that your patient may have specific needs.

For example, if you are referring a trans man for treatment to a gynaecology service, letting the clinic know in advance should allow them to make sure that clinical, administrative and support staff respond appropriately to your patient and care for them in a manner that respects their dignity.

You must make sure that any personal information about patients that you hold or control is effectively protected at all times against improper disclosure.

You must respect the wishes of any patient who objects to particular personal information being shared within the healthcare team or with others providing care, unless disclosure would be justified in the public interest. If a patient objects to a disclosure that you consider essential to the provision of safe care, you should explain that you cannot refer them or otherwise arrange for their treatment without also disclosing that information.