

**If you're not counted,  
you don't count!**

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# The Information Standard

The SOM Information Standard went live on October 5<sup>th</sup> 2017.

It provides the mechanism for recording the sexual orientation of all patients/ service users aged 16 years and over across all health services and Local Authorities with responsibilities for adult social care in England, for the purposes of compliance with the Equality Act 2010

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/sexual-orientation-monitoring>

**MailOnline**

It's idiotic! MP blasts moves to make doctors ask if you are gay: Critics brand questions a waste of GPs' time and intrusive

**MailOnline**

Doctors are ordered to ask patients if they are gay: NHS bows to pressure from equal rights lobby to insist that GPs have to record every patient's sexuality

*The Telegraph*

NHS faces doctors' rebellion over 'intrusive' sexual orientation question

**THE TIMES**

NHS doctors to quiz all patients on their sex lives

**THE Sun**

**SEXUAL HEALING** GPs to ask patients their **SEXUALITY** after NHS bows to equal rights pressure

**Mirror**

NHS staff to be allowed to quiz patients on their sexual orientation

**attitude**

'AS A GAY MAN, I SERIOUSLY DISAGREE WITH BEING MADE TO TELL MY DOCTOR MY SEXUALITY' (OPINION)

**THE CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE**

**BBC**

NHS patients to be asked about sexuality

**theguardian**

Gay rights activists welcome NHS questioning of patients over sexuality

'Intrusive' NHS to question patients on their sexuality

**LGBT**  
foundation

EDC03

# Where we are

- Multi-agency T&F Group has worked over the last 4 years
- 2 SOM E-learning modules with HEE, LGBT Foundation & Stonewall
- Patient facing FAQs & NHS England FAQs
- 6 Regional engagement events
- Learning sessions with regional NHS E&D leads
- SOM Good Practice Guide
- Inclusion of SOM in key data sets
- Early Adopters group with NHS Employers

# Greater Manchester

- Jon Rouse welcome message
- Letter from Nicky O'Connor & Paul Martin to all parts of the GM system
- Working Group
- Access & digital fund from GMHSCP for acute trusts
- Pride in Practice – 95 out of 501 GP Practices
- Ambition of Whole System Approach to SOM implementation
- Explore how data can be utilised

# A Person's Identity Matters

- Can improve the service you receive, e.g. referral to specialist services, faster diagnosis
- Monitoring helps create an environment of openness, which makes it easier for you to discuss personal issues, or those relating to your sexual orientation
- Monitoring helps add to an evidence base around LGB need. Once sufficient evidence is gathered, services can be tailored towards these needs which will help to reduce inequalities and improve access

# Next Steps

- Inclusion of SOM in CCG contracts
- NHS 5 Year Forward View
- CQC
- SPINE
- Implementation of SOM Action Plan
- Use of the data to inform service provision
- Information Standard expected impact 50% compliant by April 2018, 100% compliant by April 2019

# Coming down the tracks...

- Likely review of Gender Recognition Act (Summer 2018)
- Likely inclusion of SOM in 2021 census
- GEO LGBT national survey results (Summer 2018)
- GEO SOM whole Government harmonisation project
- Equality objective 3: To improve the experience of LGBT patients and improve LGBT staff representation.
  - Target 4: To develop and deliver an effective engagement programme and secure feedback on the roll-out and take up of the SOM Standard within NHS England and across the NHS (2017/18).
  - Target 5: To support and facilitate appropriate monitoring of the implementation and take up of the SOM Standard within NHS England and across the NHS (2017/18, 2018/19 & 2019/20).

# Where as a priority within the H&SC system is the SOM Info Standard?

- System leaders?
- Resources?
- Action Plan?
- Engagement?
- Communication?

# Resources

NHS Digital standard notice and implementation guidance:

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/sexual-orientation-monitoring>

LGBT Foundation sexual orientation monitoring page- includes link to the monitoring guide <http://lgbt.foundation/resources-and-information/policy/guidance/monitoring>

NHS England SOM page- includes a FAQs page

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/about/equality/equality-hub/sexual-orientation-monitoring-information-standard/>

HEE e-module <https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/sexual-orientation-monitoring-information-standard/>