

9. YOU WANT TO KNOW MY WHAT?

It can seem nosier when someone is asking the questions face to face rather than getting you to fill in a form. But it's the same. We're really not interested in you personally, not in that way. We do it with everyone.

And if you'd rather fill the form in yourself, just tell us.

10. STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

It's quite natural to feel protective of your personal information. It's not only natural, it's sensible.

But if local authorities and hospitals and police forces and employers don't know who's out there, it can make it difficult to get services right. Your information can make all the difference in ensuring services are right for you.



This leaflet is based on the original leaflet 'What's it got to do with you?' by Stonewall



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If you require this leaflet in other formats or languages please contact PALS: 0800 917 8504

এই লিফলেটটি যদি আপনার অন্য কোনো ফরম্যাটে বা ভাষায় প্রয়োজন হয়, তবে অনুগ্রহ করে 0800 917 8504 নম্বরে পালস এর সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন

Je i šią skrajutę norite gauti kitu formatu ar kalba, kreipkitės į PALS: 0800 917 8504

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym formacie lub języku, prosimy o kontakt z PALS pod numerem telefonu 0800 917 8504.

Dacă aveți nevoie de acest prospect în alte formate sau limbi, vă rugăm să contactați PALS: 0800 917 8504

Если Вы хотели бы получить данную брошюру на другом языке или в другом формате, просим обращаться в PALS (Информационная служба для пациентов) по 0800 917 8504.

Equality data provided to the Trust is processed and stored securely in accordance with data protection legislation. Please view the Trust Privacy Notice for additional information: www.nhft.nhs.uk/privacy

EQUALITY INFORMATION: WHAT'S IT GOT TO DO WITH YOU?

10 reasons why you should fill in those funny box things at the end of forms



☎ 01536 410141

🌐 nhft.nhs.uk



#weareNHFT

1. QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS

Wherever you go, people want to know your business. Your age, gender, sexuality, race, religion, whether you're disabled... Where does all this information go?

It goes to help make things better, that's where it goes.

It tells us at Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (NHFT) where to direct our services; it shows NHFT if certain people aren't making the most of them; and it makes sure that you get the right slice of what you're paying for.

We can't change things without your help.

2. BIG BROTHER IS NOT WATCHING YOU, FUNNY AS THAT MAY SEEM

We're all told to watch who we give our personal information to, what with identity theft and everything.

But when you give us information about your age, race, religion, disability, sexuality etc, you can be sure that it will only be used to make things better. In fact we usually won't even know it's you.

3. IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU. REALLY SORRY ABOUT THAT

Yes, occasionally you may fill in a form with your name and address. But the section with information about age, race, sexuality etc. is almost always dealt with separately.

Your personal information is about you- hello! The rest is statistics. And if we occasionally keep it on your file, it will only ever be to make sure that you as a white/ black/older/younger/ married/ single/ straight/ gay/ man/ women etc are being properly cared for.

4. COME THE REVOLUTION

Some people worry about giving information in case it should fall into the wrong hands. When we get your form, we don't just file it away in a basement. There are very strict laws to make sure we protect those details and deal with them responsibly.

And if you don't trust us for whatever reason- or you don't feel comfortable- then don't give the information. No one can make you.

5. GO AHEAD. ASK

So, what information do we want out of you?

We want to know whether you're a man or a woman. We want to know what age category you fit in. We may want to know your ethnicity and we may also want to know your sexual orientation, for example whether you are gay/ lesbian/ heterosexual/ bisexual.

We're not after dinner and a movie. We just need to know to be able to do our job properly. Same with disability. Data like this helps us get services right.

6. GET SERVICES RIGHT? HOW DOES MY INFO DO THAT?

Your information can make a big difference.

Take a couple of examples. If there are lots of older people in an area, maybe more patient transport services are needed. Maybe your first language is not English and you'd prefer information in your own language.

These are just a few examples of how sharing your information can help get services right.

7. RACE, RELIGION, SEXUALITY? IS THAT IT?

Well, who's asking? Depending on whose form you're filling in, you can usually see why they need the information.

We might want to know if you're homeless. Or have a particular condition. Or are transgender. We are not being nosy- the information helps make services better by targeting them at the right people. And, as always, it won't come back to you personally.

8. EMPLOYERS NEED TO KNOW TOO

It's easy to see why your local council might need to know this stuff, but what about when you're asked to fill in a form like this by a healthcare provider? When you're applying for a job, for instance?

The reasons are similar: to make sure we are being fair and that people from all backgrounds are represented. And of course the details you give are protected by those same strict laws.

