



Oregon

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The Value of Collecting Race and Ethnicity Information

Evidence clearly shows that disparities among quality of care across race and ethnicity remain present despite many valuable efforts and initiatives. As each Oregonian deserves high quality health care, the first step in ensuring that is the collection of race and ethnicity at the time of service. Through the standardized collection of race and ethnicity data, the State can help providers and patients to address disparities in their own communities. Only through quality, uniform data collection can effective strategies be developed and evaluated to improve the quality of care for all Oregonians.

Under Oregon Revised Statute 442.120 and detailed in Oregon Administrative Rule 409-022-0100 through 409-022-0080, the Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research (OHPR) requires that all hospitals and licensed free-standing Ambulatory Surgery Centers in Oregon collect patient race and ethnicity data. OHPR uses national standards as a foundation for the collection of this data. However, the national standards do not allow for the flexibility Oregonians need for this data collection effort. Additional options have been included to allow maximum flexibility for Oregonians to answer questions in the most comfortable and accurate way possible.

Your answers are confidential and voluntary. The only people who access this information are registered staff, administrators and the people involved in healthcare oversight. The confidentiality of what you say is protected by law.

If you have any questions about the collection of your race and ethnicity data or the confidentiality of your answers please call Erica Hedberg at 503-373-2287.