# Gender Harmony Project overview

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**Sparked CDG online meeting (out of session) - Sex & eRequesting**
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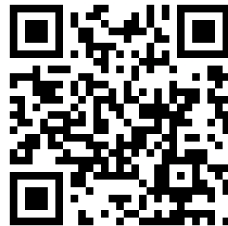# THE HL7 GENDER HARMONY PROJECT

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# The HL7 Gender Harmony Project (GHP)

- An HL7 International project developed by the **Terminology Infrastructure**, **Patient Administration**, **Structured Documents**, **Financial Management**, **Orders & Observations**, and **Patient Care** work groups.

- Active participation from
  - The LGBTQIA+ community,
  - Other Standards Development Organisations e.g., DICOM, SNOMED International, Regenstrief Institute and IEEE
  - Government agencies: e.g. USA (Office of the National Coordinator, CDC and VA) and Canada (Canada Health Infoway)
  - EHR vendors e.g., Epic and Allscripts
  - Clinical associations and colleges e.g., the American Medical Association (AMA)

- **Phase 1:** *HL7 Informative Document: Gender Harmony — Modeling Sex and Gender Representation, Release 1* which was balloted in January 2021 and published in August 2021.

- **Phase 2:** *HL7 Cross Paradigm Implementation Guide: Sex and Gender Representation, Edition 1* which was balloted in September 2022 and published in September 2023

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# THE HL7 GENDER HARMONY CROSS PARADIGM IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

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# The Gender Harmony Logical Model

– Conceptual model which outlines the data elements, element attributes, terminology bindings and relationships that clarify the meaning and context of the information presented

– The model has five major data elements independent of other components that may also be part of the information model for a Person:

- **Gender Identity** (GI),

- **Sex Parameter for Clinical Use** (SPCU),

- **Recorded Sex or Gender** (RSG),

- **Name to Use** (NtU) and

- **Pronouns**

– These data elements are **important for all consumers**, not just for specific communities.

– Each data element's description includes a definition, the source of the information, the context in which it is be used, appropriate and inappropriate use, and additional guidance.

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# Sex Parameter for Clinical Use (SPCU) 1/3

**Definition**

- Intended to indicate if observations that align with or vary from female or male are to be considered in the associated clinical activity.

- Derived from observable information with context specificity, preferably directly linked to the information this element summarizes (such as a comment or a linked data observation).

- The intent is to provide a reliable sex category (when one is required) to inform clinical care.

**Sources of SPCU data**

- Primarily clinicians but also clinical rules system, clinical observations

- **NOT the patient**

**Sub-elements:**

- SPCU category

- Duration

- Comment

- Linked / supporting clinical observations

# Sex Parameter for Clinical Use (SPCU) 2/3

**SPCU category values and definitions**

- **Apply female-typical setting or reference range**
  - Available data indicates that diagnostics, analytics, and treatments should consider best practices associated with female reference populations.

- **Apply male-typical setting or reference range**
  - Available data indicates that diagnostics, analytics, and treatments should consider best practices associated with male reference populations.

- **Specified**
  - Available data indicates that diagnostics, analytics, and treatment best practices may be undefined or not aligned with sex-derived reference populations. Additional information may be available in the form of comments and/or observations.

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# Sex Parameter for Clinical Use (SPCU) 2/3

**SPCU initial adoption**

– Added as a draft element to the US Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) v5 in the Observations data class

– USA National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) revised measure specifications for breast cancer and cervical cancer

– HL7 Europe Laboratory Report FHIR Implementation Guide

# Questions & Answers

# Thank you!