

## NYS NEMSIS 3.5.0 | Educational Snip #2024-004

### Gender & Race – ePatient.13 & .14

#### **Q: How has gender and race documentation changed under NEMSIS 3.5?**

Accurate documentation of patient gender and race is important. These fields contribute to identifying information on the Patient Care Report. Additionally, they provide researchers with metrics to assess when investigating health outcomes and inequities.

Please note that gender and sex aren't synonymous. According to the New York Human Rights Law, "gender identity or expression" is defined as "a person's actual or perceived gender-related identity, appearance, behavior, expression, or other gender-related characteristic regardless of the sex assigned to that person at birth, including, but not limited to, the status of being transgender."

**Communication surrounding gender and racial identities by healthcare providers is often sensitive. Professionally and respectfully clarifying these subjects with your patients is appropriate and contributes to a relationship of trust between EMS and the public that we serve.**

#### **Gender (ePatient.13)**

The "Gender" field under NEMSIS 3.5 has 6 elements and is required by NYS.

- Female
- Male
- Female-to-Male, Transgender Male
- Male-to-Female, Transgender Female
- Other, neither exclusively male or female
- Unknown (Unable to Determine)

## Race (ePatient.14)

The “Race” field under NEMESIS 3.5 has 6 elements and is required by NYS.

- American Indian or Alaska Native
  - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- Asian
  - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- Black or African American
  - A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- Hispanic or Latino
  - A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
- White
  - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe.

Please note, race documentation fields and their definitions are set by the [Federal Office of Management and Budget \(OMB\)](#). In 2024, the OMB released new and more inclusive standards for race documentation.

When NEMESIS completes the incorporation of this change, a seventh element will be added to the race field: “Middle Eastern and North African”, defined as a person having origins in Northern Africa or the Middle East. We expect this to be completed within the next year.