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Submitted By: Robert McClure, MD / HL7 International	
Data Element Information	
Data Class	Patient Demographics
Data Element Name	Name To Use
Description	<p>Description: Text attribute that provides the name that should be used when addressing or referencing the patient.</p> <p>Usage Notes: This information is usually provided by the patient. Depending on the standard applicable to an implementation, this might be encoded within a Person/Patient Name field with an appropriate name type qualifier but is independent of any other name type or name component. This may be a nickname or formal name. This data element may change over time, such as when a patient desires a change in name to align with expressed gender. This means the data element should support a validity period and a comment attribute to allow text that can be used to capture context for use of the name.</p>
Rationale for Separate Consideration	This is a specific type of name that needs to be considered as a unique data element distinct from other patient name types, e.g: First name, last name, previous name.
Current Status	Submitted
Overall Classification Level	N/A
Use Case Description(s)	
Use Case Description	<p>These use cases are supported by the work defined within the Gender Harmony HL7 informative publication: http://www.hl7.org/implement/standards/product_brief.cfm?product_id=564 and also by a JAMIA article describing the project and it's need: https://academic.oup.com/jamia/advance-</p>

[article/doi/10.1093/jamia/ocab196/6382238?guestAccessKey=016faba4-edcc-4cbd-b5bc-27d3452d2ce1](https://doi.org/10.1093/jamia/ocab196/6382238?guestAccessKey=016faba4-edcc-4cbd-b5bc-27d3452d2ce1).

Name to use: Clearly specifying the name to be used when interacting with the patient is foundational to a supportive and meaningful relationship. Additionally it provides a data element that can be used to mark a clear transition noting that the patient has changed the name to align with a desired persona. This is distinct from a legal name or other types of names. The Name To Use can also rapidly reflect proper naming even when other names, such as the legal name may not change as easily or quickly.

Pronouns: Pronouns are effectively similar to the name to use in clarifying proper reference verbage for the patient and can be used to engage in supportive interactions. Proper pronoun use cannot be inferred from a patient name because some patients use gender-neutral names or may desire use of pronouns that do not typically align with social norms. Health system pronoun documentation should be supported independent of other related sex and gender elements, including Recorded Sex or Gender (which is recommended to document changes to legal documents including birth certificates, jurisdictional identification cards (e.g., drivers licenses etc.).

Estimated number of stakeholders capturing, accessing using or exchanging	Both Name to Use and Pronouns are widely implemented in systems and should be considered Level 2
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Link to use case project page	http://hl7.me/GHP
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Healthcare Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Improving patient experience of care (quality and/or satisfaction) ■ Improving the health of populations ■ Improving provider experience of care
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Maturity of Use and Technical Specifications for Data Element

Applicable Standard(s)	LOINC Personal pronouns – Reported 90778-2 LOINC does not have a specific observable that aligns directly with “Name to use”
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	<p>Recommendation for USCDI v3 Alignment with HL7 and LOINC</p> <p>he/him/his/his/himself H (LA29518-0)</p> <p>she/her/her/hers/herself S (LA29519-8)</p> <p>they/them/their/theirs/themself T (LA29520-6)</p> <p>Something else, please specify: nullFlavor OTH</p> <p>Unknown nullFlavor UNK</p> <p>Other options are permissible, such as neopronouns (ze/hir, ey/em, etc.) and options such as “use only my name” or “any pronouns”, in addition to the above minimum set. For further recommendations related to pronouns, see Kronk et al (2021).</p> <p>https://loinc.org/90778-2/</p>
Additional Specifications	<p>HL7 Informative Document: Gender Harmony - Modeling Sex and Gender Representation, Release 1</p> <p>http://www.hl7.org/implement/standards/product_brief.cfm?product_id=564</p> <p>The intent is to have changes to support the implementation of the Gender Harmony Logical Model in FHIR R5. In addition there will be a Gender Harmony specific FHIR IG in September 2022 ballot that provides additional guidance across HL7 products including V2 and C-CDA.</p> <p>For Name To Use, FHIR already supports this element through the use of HumanName datatype. HumanName.use = “Usual”.</p>
Current Use	In limited use in production environments
Supporting Artifacts	Utilized in Epic EHR although in Epic-specific way. Found in modifications to support the need by the EHR in use at Fenway Health systems in Boston, MA.
Number of organizations/individuals with which this data element has been electronically exchanged	N/A
Potential Challenges	
Restrictions on Standardization (e.g. proprietary code)	none
Restrictions on Use (e.g. licensing, user fees)	none
Privacy and Security Concerns	Some systems may determine there are privacy implications of this data but the intent is to make this openly available given it is intended to support direct

	interactions with the patient.
Estimate of Overall Burden	Implementing additional fields to collect this information is the only potential burden.



Health information technology (Health IT) makes it possible for health care providers to better manage patient care through secure use and sharing of health information. Health IT includes the use of electronic health records (EHRs) instead of paper medical records to maintain people's health information.

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