Submitted By: Robert McClure, MD / HL7 International	
Data Element Information	
Data Class	**New Data Class:** Recorded Sex or Gender Class
Data Element Name	Recorded Sex or Gender (RSG)
Description	A documentation of sex and/or gender information that is not a patient specified gender identity or a properly specified Sex For Clinical Use. A recorded sex or gender item is contextually bound to the particular element or field name, and the document or record that contains the field.
Rationale for Separate Consideration	The existing USCDI Data Element "Sex (Assigned at Birth)" is is not a reliable representation of a patient gender identity, nor is it a contextually specified sex for clinical use. Additionally, many jurisdicitions allow modification of this element for other purposes so the meaning is unclear. While "Sex (Assigned at Birth)" which may, or may not be the "Gender Marker on Original Birth Certificate" (perhaps more accurately termed "assigned gender at birth") is a common data element in a number of jurisdictions, it currently lacks a consistent definition from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and is open to clinically dangerous misuse. Therefore we recommend that it be represented as a specific RSG with the source field identifier of "Sex assigned at birth."
Current Status	Submitted
Overall Classification Level	N/A
Use Case Description(s)	
Use Case Description	Clinical and administrative data is filled with data fields named in some way as "sex" or "gender" that are not well defined gender identity or sex for clinical use based upon specific clinical observation. Each of these data fields, exchanged millions of times a year, are better understood as a particular recording of some value considered a representation of the patient "sex" or the patient "gender", yet very rarely is that field a demonstratably clear SFCU or gender identity. For instance, a trans woman may be able to update her driver's license to 'F' but her state might not allow changing a value on her birth certificate, which may still read 'M'. Depending on the system or record, either of these values may be present as "sex". Therefore what we propose is to identify all this frequently exchanged information for what it actually is: a "recorded

	sex or gender" and include the clarifying information as described in the HL7 Gender Harmony informative guide . Additional information is also found in the JAMIA article discussing the project . International H. HL7® Informative Document: Gender Harmony - Modeling Sex and Gender Representation, Release 1. 2021.http://www.hl7.org/implement/standards/product_brief.cf product_id=564 (accessed 21 Nov 2021). McClure RC, Macumber CL, Kronk C, et al. Gender harmony: improved standards to support affirmative care of gender-marginalized people through inclusive gender and sex representation. J Am Med Inform Assn 2022;29:354–63. doi:10.1093/jamia/ocab196
Estimated number of stakeholders capturing, accessing using or exchanging	This element is included in almost every clinical and administrative record.
Link to use case project page	https://confluence.hl7.org/display/VOC/Cross+Paradigm+Use+C
Use Case Description	Sex assigned at birth rendered as a Recorded Sex or Gender element is provided in the attached pdf
Estimated number of stakeholders capturing, accessing using or exchanging	The majority of patient data records currently include a sex assigned at birth RSG.
Supporting Attachments	RSG SAAB example.pdf
Healthcare Aims	- Improving patient experience of care (quality and/or satisfaction) - Improving the health of populations - Improving provider experience of care

Maturity of Use and Technical Specifications for Data Element

Applicable Standard(s)	LOINC "Recorded sex or gender" 99502-7 https://loinc.org/99502-7/
Additional Specifications	HL7 Gender Harmony informative publication http://www.hl7.org/implement/standards/product_brief.cfm?product_id=564
Current Use	In limited use in production environments
Supporting Artifacts	There are systems, such as Epic, and other locally configured systems, such as at the Fenway Institute in Boston, that support an approach similar to RSG.

Number of organizations/individuals with which this data element has been electronically exchanged	N/A
Potential Challenges	
Restrictions on Standardization (e.g. proprietary code)	No restrictions other than changing the perceived approach to this common element.
Restrictions on Use (e.g. licensing, user fees)	None
Privacy and Security Concerns	Some RSG data items may represent PHI
Estimate of Overall Burden	Many systems will simply internally identify any RSG element with a tag to indicate it is an RSG and therefore should not be considered a gender identity or be used as a sex for clinical use. Implementation strategies will vary but should not be difficult once adopted.
Other Implementation Challenges	None

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.

How Do I?
News
Topics

Privacy Policy
Disclaimers
Viewers & Players
GobiernoUSA.gov

Stay connected with ONC

Subscribe to our Email Updates!