

The Gender Harmony Project



[Gender Harmony Meeting Calls](#)

[Example use cases needing Gender Harmony approach](#)

[Gender & Sex Definitions](#)

[Gender Harmony Context Definitions](#)

[Gender Harmony Project Goals](#)

[Gender Harmony Project PSS](#)

[Implementations and SDO uses](#)

[Issues, Examples, Areas of concern](#)

[Media](#)

[Project participants](#)

This is project born of the ongoing frustration the ideas encompassed by "sex" and "gender" have never been easy to capture consistently within health models. Those terminologists among us have always said this topic was the quintessential example that proves "terminology is hard." This project is going to try use some tried and true approaches to how we model information (data elements, value sets, code systems) and use them to define/harmonize some aspects, likely not all, for representing sex/gender. This project will result in a balloted informational document that will define use-context collections that also include appropriate value sets. These artifacts can then be associated with model elements using binding parameters that are informed by the metadata the project will identify with each use context.

The project must take into account actual user needs and include end user communities, including the international community. Communities such as DaVinci, HSPC/CIIC, Argonaut, IPS, pharmacy, the LGBTQ community and many others. Importantly we must walk that fine line of allowing multiple approaches to very similar things without requiring harmonization from the outset, yet we will harmonize if at all possible.

We expect that once completed, the set of use-contexts, currently called sex-gender types, can be used to clarify that certain existing model implementations actually intend users to assume one sex or gender entry actually represent multiple distinct sex-gender types that can in fact have different values *that use the same code*. For example, a single "sex" field that at data entry time is perceived to mean "current gender identity" but is then subsequently used to represent "current phenotypic organ clinical sex." In that case the initial choice of "M" may in fact properly be represented as "F" for the latter use.

[Link to the Vocab Q4 minutes where this was discussed](#)

Please participate on determining values for Gender Identity!

[Survey](#) is now closed - thanks to all who participated.

Dashboard link: <https://www.surveymonkey.ca/stories/SM-NT3VYRSD/>

Please participate!

You **do not need to be an HL7 member to participate**, but to leave comments and really get the most out of your participation, you will need an HL7 Confluence Login. To get one please [Request an Account](#).

Like many of the HL7 projects, this project has matured and adapted over time, making some of the pages outdated. We recommend new participants engage by:

1. Joining the bi-weekly calls
2. Reviewing the [Context Definition Page](#) to review the context definitions created by this project
3. For background information and/or to review information initially submitted by international project participants, see the [Implementations and SDO Use Case](#) page
4. Leaving comments on any of the related pages
5. Contacting project leads [Rob McClure](#) and [Caroline Macumber](#) with any other comments /questions or concerns

We need USE CASES for examples of situations where non-typical patient sex or gender has an impact on clinical care. [See slide 2 in this presentation](#) as a general example but we need input on specific machines, lab tests, etc. that are impacted and how to implement in a non disruptive way.

Gender Harmony Meeting Calls

Every other Monday 4pm ET for 90 min using

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://zoom.us/j/7183806281?pwd=WHVnUUJkWWhhcnRaYk9sWWQyOEkvUT09> | Meeting ID: 718 380 6281 Password: 370553

Dial-in: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/aciVC9RrJ6>

View all call details at <http://www.hl7.org/concalls/CallDetails.aspx?concall=48191>

Project ID 1533

TSC Approval 2019-07-08

Project Naming

Some folks suggested we try a different name to ensure communication makes it through e-mail filters. Please list any suggested project names here:

DIGS - Discrete Interoperability for Gender and Sex

New DIGSY - New Discrete Interoperability for Gender and Sex, yo.

Useful Links

Short URL for project: <http://hl7.me/GHP>


LOINC definitions of [Sex](#) and [Gender](#)

[WHO on Gender](#)

[German HL7 page](#) on Geschlecht (Gender)

Health Standards Collaborative [Approaches to Terminology for Gender and Sex](#)

[Canada Health Infoway Sex and Gender Working Group](#)

File	Modified 
PDF File Original GI Survey.pdf	Sep 18, 2020 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Word Document HL7 Survey - CIHI Response.docx	Sep 18, 2020 by Rob McClure
PDF File Gender_Sec_sexualOrientationJAMIA Article.pdf	Aug 11, 2020 by Rob McClure
PDF File SOGI global survey research.pdf	Aug 11, 2020 by Rob McClure
PDF File FCSM_SOGI_Terminology_FY20_Report_FINAL.pdf	Aug 11, 2020 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Powerpoint Presentation DQS-2020-GenderHarmony v6.pptx	Jul 27, 2020 by Caroline Macumber
Microsoft Powerpoint Presentation sex-gender20200724.pptx	Jul 27, 2020 by Robert Horn
Microsoft Word Document Provenance-use-cases-sex-and-gender-20200727.docx	Jul 27, 2020 by Robert Horn
PDF File 2018-Jun-25-ACLA-Best-Practice-Patient-Gender-Final.pdf	Jul 22, 2020 by Rob McClure
PDF File GI Survey Data_All_200713_PDF.pdf	Jul 13, 2020 by Rob McClure
PDF File BC Gender & Sex Standard review_Lorraine.pdf	Jul 13, 2020 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Powerpoint Presentation sex-gender20200713.pptx	Jul 13, 2020 by Robert Horn

PDF File AMIA20GH Panel Final.pdf	Mar 23, 2020 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Word Document cp1927_16_Patient_s ex_and_gender.docx	Jan 27, 2020 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Word Document cp1927_15_Patient_s ex_and_gender.docx	Jan 13, 2020 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Word Document cp1927_14_Patient_s ex_and_gender.docx	Dec 16, 2019 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Powerpoint Presentation HL7 gender harmony presentation oct21-2019.pptx	Oct 21, 2019 by Caroline Macumber
Microsoft Powerpoint Presentation USCDI Session - Interoperability Forum-Just GH.pptx	Aug 25, 2019 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet STANDARDS_HARMONIZATION_Context-rjh-added-contexts.xlsx	Jul 31, 2019 by kaitlin_perkins
Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet STANDARDS_HARMONIZATION_Context.xlsx	Jul 10, 2019 by kaitlin_perkins
PDF File Care of the Transgender Patient airc201907020.pdf	Jul 02, 2019 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet Gender_Identity_Research_and_Use_Cases_07012019.xlsx	Jul 01, 2019 by Manisha Khatta
PDF File WPATH Article.pdf	Jun 28, 2019 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Word Document Standards Harmonization QUESTIONS for meeting.docx	Jun 27, 2019 by Rob McClure
Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet STANDARDS_HARMONIZATION_INCLUSIVE.xlsx	Jun 27, 2019 by Rob McClure
JPEG File image003.jpg	Feb 13, 2019 by Rob McClure

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