

SPD 15: WHY DOES IT MATTER TO ME?

What is SPD 15?

SPD 15 is a set of rules the government uses to collect information about race and ethnicity. It makes sure all areas of government ask and record the race and ethnicity question the same way. This helps the government collect fair and clear information.

How do rules, like SPD 15, impact me?

SPD 15 helps more people be counted. The new rules add more choices so people can describe who they are better. The best information comes from you!

The infographic below highlights how a policy like SPD 15 impacts our daily lives.

1



GOVERNMENT

The government sets different rules. Health care groups must update their forms and systems to match these rules. This helps them collect better information.

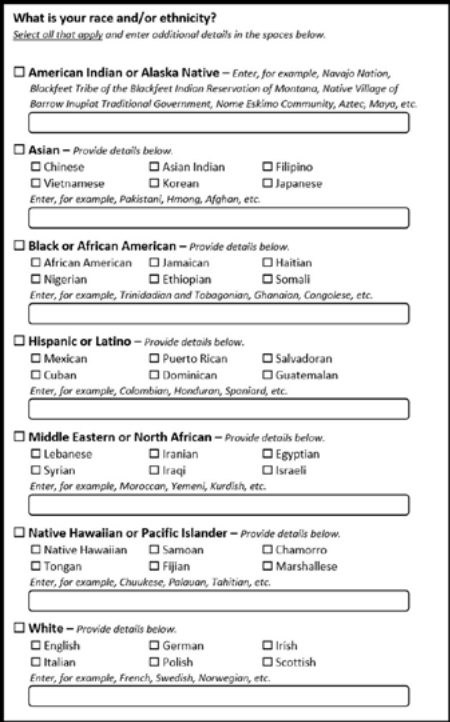
2



PATIENT

You may see these questions on forms at the doctor's office. doctor's office. **When you answer, it helps show who lives in your community.**

3



What is your race and/or ethnicity?
Select all that apply and enter additional details in the spaces below.

☐ **American Indian or Alaska Native** – Enter, for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, Ahtec, Mayo, etc.

☐ **Asian** – Provide details below.

☐ Chinese ☐ Asian Indian ☐ Filipino
☐ Vietnamese ☐ Korean ☐ Japanese
Enter, for example, Pakistani, Hmong, Afghan, etc.

☐ **Black or African American** – Provide details below.

☐ African American ☐ Jamaican ☐ Haitian
☐ Nigerian ☐ Ethiopian ☐ Somali
Enter, for example, Trinidadian and Tobagonian, Ghanaian, Congolese, etc.

☐ **Hispanic or Latino** – Provide details below.

☐ Mexican ☐ Puerto Rican ☐ Salvadoran
☐ Cuban ☐ Dominican ☐ Guatemalan
Enter, for example, Colombian, Honduran, Spanish, etc.

☐ **Middle Eastern or North African** – Provide details below.

☐ Lebanese ☐ Iranian ☐ Egyptian
☐ Syrian ☐ Iraqi ☐ Israeli
Enter, for example, Moroccan, Yemeni, Kurdish, etc.

☐ **Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander** – Provide details below.

☐ Native Hawaiian ☐ Samoan ☐ Chamorro
☐ Tongan ☐ Fijian ☐ Marshallese
Enter, for example, Chuukese, Palauan, Tahitian, etc.

☐ **White** – Provide details below.

☐ English ☐ German ☐ Irish
☐ Italian ☐ Polish ☐ Scottish
Enter, for example, French, Swedish, Norwegian, etc.

Race and ethnicity information helps doctors and nurses give better care. It helps them connect people to services that fit their culture and language.

4



CARE & SUPPORT

Health care groups can build teams that look like the people they serve. This helps build trust and give better care.



WORKFORCE

This information helps find health problems in different communities. It helps send help where it is needed most.



HEALTH & DISEASE

This information helps researchers learn about health problems. It helps leaders make better programs and rules.



RESEARCH

How does SPD 15 affect you in healthcare?

SPD 15 helps doctors, nurses, and others in healthcare collect better information. When the information is clear, it is easier to plan services and share resources fairly.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Good data helps everyone be seen. When people are counted, care gets better. Information about race and ethnicity helps doctors and health leaders learn what people need. In 2024, the SPD 15 choices were updated, so people can pick options that fit them better. This can help hospitals understand the community more clearly, which leads to healthier communities for all.

Your role in better data

When we learn about the whole person, health systems can improve care for more people.

When you share how you describe yourself, it helps make the information better. Better information can help care teams work together and help health programs serve people well.

Good information also includes things like:

- ✓ **DISABILITY**
- ✓ **WHERE PEOPLE LIVE AND WORK**
- ✓ **HOW THEY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES**