

## 16 POINT ETHNIC CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

Major Categories	Sub-groupings	Code
<b>White</b>	British or mixed British	<b>9i0</b>
	Irish	<b>9i1</b>
	Any other white background	<b>9i2</b>
<b>Mixed</b>	White and Black Caribbean	<b>9i3</b>
	White and Black African	<b>9i4</b>
	White and Asian	<b>9i5</b>
	Any other mixed background	<b>9i6</b>
<b>Asian or British Asian</b>	Indian or British Indian	<b>9i7</b>
	Pakistani or British Pakistani	<b>9i8</b>
	Bangladeshi or British Bangladeshi	<b>9i9</b>
	Any other Asian background	<b>9iA</b>
<b>Black or Black British</b>	Caribbean	<b>9iB</b>
	African	<b>9iC</b>
	Any other black background	<b>9iD</b>
<b>Any other Ethnic Group</b>	Chinese	<b>9iE</b>
	Any other ethnic group	<b>9iF</b>
<b>Not Stated</b>	Do not wish to state	<b>9SD</b>

# INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

## Why we are collecting Ethnicity and First (main) Language information:

- ◆ To enable us to understand the make-up of our patient population
- ◆ To enable us to assess the needs of our population
- ◆ Language differences can compound difficulties in communicating with patients. This may have implications for diagnosis and patient safety
- ◆ To assist us to organise appropriate interpreter services

## What Is Ethnicity?

Your ethnicity is the ethnic group that you consider you belong to.

An ethnic group is a group of people who share, for example, language, history, culture, upbringing.

This is not the same as your citizenship or nationality. Nor is it the same as your ethnic origin which describes your genetic make-up.

If you consider that you belong to more than one group, please choose the one that you feel you most belong to or pick "Any other ethnic group" (code 9iF). The classification system is that used in the 2001 Census.

**We are required to ask you  
but you can choose NOT to state  
your ethnicity**

# ETHNICITY: INFORMATION FOR STAFF

## What is Ethnicity?

- i. An ethnic group is identified as people who share characteristics such as language, history, culture, upbringing, religion, nationality, geographical and ancestral origins and place. This provides the group with a distinct identify as seen both by themselves and by others. A person self-assigns his or her own ethnic group.
- ii. Essential features to help determine the meaning of “ethnic group” are:
  - A long shared history
  - A common cultural tradition

In addition some of the following may be present:

  - Either a common geographical origin or descent from a small number of common ancestors
  - A common language
  - A common literature
  - A common religion
  - A minority within a larger community
- iii. It is important to distinguish the term “ethnic group” from ethnic origin, or racial origin, which is not self-assigned. The term “ethnic origin” is used in medicine to describe the genetic make-up of a person, and is important in, for example, tissue typing to identify organ donors.
- iv. Ethnic group is less easily specified, and is more subjective, than ethnic origin. Ethnic group is not determined by another individual, but is the individual’s own perception of themselves in response to all the cultural and other factors making up ethnic group.
- v. Ethnic category data collection is relevant to the whole population.

## About the classification

The new (16) ethnic categories were developed for the 2001 population census by the Office for National Statistics, in conjunction with the Commission for Racial Equality, and replace the (8) classifications in use from the 1991 census. They take more account of British-born ethnic minority groups and those of a “mixed race” background and will give a much more detailed picture of the communities that make up today’s multi-ethnic Britain.

All statutory agencies (including the NHS) will be using the same categories, allowing information to be compared and collated in a geographical area on such as housing, health, social care and employment issues.

There is no direct “map” from the old to the new codes, which means that all patients must be asked as a “one off” exercise to confirm their status from the new codes.

## How to collect information for patients/clients

- ❖ It is a self-classification – **do not** answer for the patient on what you “see”
- ❖ All new patients should be asked as near to their first contact with Priory Medical Group as possible
- ❖ Anyone else who doesn’t have ethnicity or first language on the computer should be asked
- ❖ Information for young children/babies should be given by the mother (or other parent/carer where the mother is unavailable) in the first instance
- ❖ Older children who are capable of understanding and responding should be asked. Their parents/carers may support the children in giving their answers
- ❖ Close relatives or advocates may speak on behalf of individuals who are unable to speak for themselves or unable to understand what is being asked
- ❖ Some people may need the support of translators or interpreters
- ❖ Staff **must not** record what they judge to be the patient’s ethnic category