

# Q & A

## Indigenous Self-Identification

### QUICK RESOURCE



Thunder Bay Regional  
Health Sciences  
Centre



#### Why are you asking me this?

We want to be able to coordinate resources and healing supports to better support your care.

#### Can I choose not to answer?

Yes. Self-identification is 100% voluntary.

#### Is this racist?

No, this is not racist. We are trying to eliminate discrimination.

#### Is this legal?

Yes. The Ontario Human Rights Commission encourages us to collect this information.

#### If I Self-Identify, will my care be affected?

No, the quality of your care will not be affected. We will be able to provide you with access to Indigenous supports such as an Indigenous Patient Navigator, Indigenous Care Coordinator, or interpretation services.

#### Why do Indigenous people get special treatment?

Everyone's health is important. Indigenous people have more health concerns than non-Indigenous people and face barriers when accessing health services.

#### What happens to this information?

This information is kept in your electronic medical record and accessible to your health care team providing you with care. Your status card number will be used by our Patient Billing Department. The information will be used to identify health trends and inform public health and support programs. Individuals will not be identified as part of this process. The Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre manages personal health information in accordance with the Personal Health Information Protection Act.

#### Will I be asked this question every time I come to the hospital?

No. You will be asked once and your answers will be kept in your electronic medical record.

*For information contact:*

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