



I3: Learning to Ask about Sexual and Gender Identities

Type of Exercise: discussion questions

Level: Intermediate

Length of time: 30 minutes

Resources needed: handout with scenarios

Instructions: Have participants divide into small groups and each group is asked to generate at least two ways to bring up the topic of sexuality, gender, or partner status in the following scenarios.

- Rick has been on your extended care facility unit for a week following a hip replacement. You notice that every evening, the same man visits him for three hours. How would you go about asking Rick if the man that visits regularly is his partner?
- Sally and her two children frequently come to the outpatient community clinic where you work. You have observed that over the past year, she has started to look more masculine. This visit, she has a little facial hair and a deeper voice. How would you go about asking her about her gender identification? How would you begin your health assessment of her at today's visit?
- Jay is a patient at your gynecological clinic. For the past two years, Jay has said that she was in a relationship with a woman and did not need any discussion about contraceptives. Today, she is sitting in the waiting room holding hands with a man. How would you go about asking her if she now needs contraceptive information?
- Gail brings her 16 year old daughter, Jenn, to your adolescent clinic. She tells you that Jenn seems to be unusually close to her best friend, Marcia. She wants you to ask her if she is a lesbian. How would you respond to Gail, and to Jenn?



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