

Attachment 10
Explanation for Sensitive Questions

STI Surveillance Network (SSuN)

March 5, 2026

OMB #0920-1072

Variable Name	Potentially Sensitive Questions	Justification
P3_PTX_SexSP	During the past 12 months, have you had sex with only males, only females or both? ▪ 1=Males only ▪ 2=Females only ▪ 3=Both Males and Females ▪ 4=Unknown ▪ 9=refused	Sex of sex partners is relevant to STI risk and critical to understanding the epidemiology of STI risk-behaviors.
P3_PTX_Sxorient	Do you consider yourself to be ...? ▪ 1=Heterosexual/Straight ▪ 2=Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual ▪ 3=Bisexual ▪ 4=Other/Don't Know ▪ 9=Refused	Sexual orientation is behaviorally relevant and critical to understanding the epidemiology of STI risk-behaviors.
P3_PTX_SexMRSP	Thinking back to the last time you had sex, was the person you had sex with...(male/female)? 1=Male 2=Female 9=Refused or Not Captured	Sex of most recent sex partner is relevant to STI risk and critical to understanding the epidemiology of STI risk-behaviors.
F1_MENSEX	How many male sex partners has the patient had in the last 3 months?	Establishes sexual activity profile and is relevant to STI risk and understanding the epidemiology of STI risk-behaviors
F1_FEMSEX	How many female sex partners has the patient had in the last 3 months?	Establishes sexual activity profile and is relevant to STI risk and understanding the epidemiology of STI risk-behaviors
F1_MSM_12	Does the male patient have a history of having male sex partners in the previous 12 months?	Establishes sexual activity profile and is relevant to STI risk and understanding the epidemiology of STI risk-behaviors
F1_Sexor3	Has the patient had sex with men, women, or both over the past 3 months?	Establishes sexual activity profile and is relevant to STI risk and understanding the epidemiology of STI risk-behaviors
F1_Sexuality	How does the person characterize their sexual orientation? 1 = gay/homosexual 2= straight/heterosexual	Constructs a self-identified sexual activity profile of the patient.

Variable Name	Potentially Sensitive Questions	Justification
	3= bisexual 4= Other 9 = Not captured	
F1_OPIOID	In the past 3 months, does the patient report use of opioids (but not under a physician's orders)?	Establishes risk behaviors associated with STI/HIV transmission.
F1_HIV_partner	Does the patient report having sex with a known HIV positive partner in the last 12 months? 1= Yes 2= No 3= Unsure/ doesn't know 9= Not captured	Knowledge and behaviors of STI/HIV prevention among patients provide critical insight into ongoing risk
FS01	Have you had sex with a man in the past 12 months?	Indicator of sexual behavior; used as inclusion criteria for survey administration
FS10	Have you been diagnosed with an STI in the past year?	Indicator of sexual risk behavior; used to establish eligibility for prevention modalities.
FS11	How many men have you had sex with in the past 3 months? Your best guess is fine	Indicator of sexual risk behavior; used to establish eligibility for prevention modalities.
FS12	How many women have you had sex with in the past 3 months? Your best guess is fine.	Indicator of sexual risk behavior; used to establish eligibility for prevention modalities.