

**OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AND
AMBULATORY SURGERY DATA REPORTING MANUAL,
MEDICAL INFORMATION REPORTING FOR CALIFORNIA, FOURTH EDITION**

RACE

Section 97253

The race shall be as self-reported by the patient or patient's guardian in cases where the patient is not capable of providing the information. The patient's race shall be reported as one choice from the following list of alternatives under race:

DISCUSSION

Specifications for reporting this data element with the Record Entry Form for online web entry of individual records or online data file transmission for encounters occurring on or after January 1, 2008:

<p>RACE R1 American Indian or Alaska Native R2 Asian R3 Black or African American R4 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander R5 White R9 Other race 99 Unknown</p>	<table border="1"><tr><td style="width: 40px; height: 30px;"></td><td style="width: 40px; height: 30px;"></td></tr></table>		

(a) American Indian or Alaska Native

DISCUSSION

A person having origins in or who identifies with any of the original peoples of North and South America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

(b) Asian

DISCUSSION

A person having origins in or who identifies with Asian Indian, Bangladeshi, Bhutanese, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Iwo Jiman, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Madagascar, Malaysian, Maldivian, Nepalese, Okinawan, Pakistani, Singaporean, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Thai, and Vietnamese.

**OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AND
AMBULATORY SURGERY DATA REPORTING MANUAL,
MEDICAL INFORMATION REPORTING FOR CALIFORNIA, FOURTH EDITION**

(c) *Black or African American*

DISCUSSION

A person having origins in or who identifies with any of the black racial groups including Botswanan, Ethiopian, Liberian, Namibian, Nigerian, Zairean, Barbadian, Bahamian, Dominican, Haitian, Jamaican, Tobagoan, Trinidadian, and West Indian.

(d) *Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander*

DISCUSSION

A person having origins in or who identifies with the following groups: Native Hawaiian, Carolinian, Chamorro, Chuukese (Trukese), Fijian, Guamanian, Kiribati, Kosraean, Mariana Islander, Marshallese, Melanesian, Micronesian, Mariana Islander, New Hebrides, Palauan, Papua New Guinean, Pohnpeian, Polynesian, Saipanese, Samoan, Solomon Islander, Tahitian, Tokelauan, Tongan, and Yapese.

(e) *White*

DISCUSSION

A person having origins in or who identifies with any of the original Caucasian peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East. This may include the following groups: Armenian, English, French, German, Irish, Italian, Polish, Scottish, Middle Eastern, North African, Assyrian, Egyptian, Iranian, Iraqi, Lebanese, Palestinian, Syrian, Afghanistani, Israeili, and Arab.

(f) *Other Race*

DISCUSSION

Any possible options not covered in the above categories. This category includes patients who cite more than one race.

**OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AND
AMBULATORY SURGERY DATA REPORTING MANUAL,
MEDICAL INFORMATION REPORTING FOR CALIFORNIA, FOURTH EDITION**

(g) Unknown

DISCUSSION

If the patient's race is not recorded in the patient's medical record, the race should be reported as "Unknown" with a race code of 99. This category includes patients who cannot or refuse to declare race.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION FOR ALL CATEGORIES

Determining Race:

- The patient's race data may be most accurately obtained directly from the patient. Self-identification may include the use of a form presenting choices.
- The quality of race data deteriorates when determination is based upon the patient's or a family member's name, physical appearance, place of birth, or primary language.
- If the patient is unable to respond, a family member may declare the patient's race.

Legality of Inquiring of patient's Race and/or Ethnicity:

There is no known law stating that it is illegal to ask patients for information on their race and/or ethnicity. Section 97253 of the California Code of Regulations states "***the patient's race shall be reported.***"

Multiracial Persons:

If a patient identifies with more than one race category:

- At this time, OSHPD allows one choice for Race although the national standards allow up to ten choices.
- It may be appropriate for the patient to choose any one of the categories that is at least partially accurate.
- It may be appropriate for the patient to choose "Other Race."