

Legacy Laboratory Services

Legacy LabAlert

August 10, 2017

An Important Update from Legacy Laboratory Services

Non-Binary Gender

On July 3, 2017, the state of Oregon began offering a third option for gender designation on ID cards and drivers licenses. At Legacy Laboratory Services, we support and uphold our patient's preferences whenever possible. However, the information systems we utilize to produce laboratory reports as well as communicate with external electronic health records and third party billing systems are only designed to utilize a binary gender (male or female). Legacy Laboratory Services will continue to work with our system vendors to enhance and update this functionality in order to be able to accommodate this new feature.

The use of laboratory information is important for clinical decision making and diagnosis. Interpretation of laboratory results is based on established reference intervals provided by the performing laboratory on the patient report. Reference intervals are regularly categorized by age and gender. Accurate patient demographics ensure that ordering providers are evaluating and interpreting laboratory data correctly.

Until a resolution is available we must ask that patients and clients provide a binary gender at the time of service. If a gender is not available at the time of registration and attempts to reconcile patient gender are unsuccessful, all patient data will be communicated using a gender of unknown. The default laboratory reference ranges (male) will be applied to the patient report. Clients and patients should be aware that the use of unknown in place of male or female may result in reporting delays or payor denials if downstream systems require a binary gender.

For additional information, please contact your account representative, client services or consult our website:
Legacy Laboratory Client Services: 503-413-1234, 877-270-5566, www.legacyhealth.org/labservices