

Background

- Gender identities are nuanced and moving away from the binary paradigm
- Describing and understanding gender is evolving
- Previous studies have evaluated optimal ways of inquiring gender
 - E.g., multiple choice questions (MCQs) and free-response (FR) questions
- However, few have investigated the use of visuals to evaluate gender identity

Objectives

- 1) Develop a visual to illustrate gender on a spectrum
- 2) Assess inclusive ways of inquiring about gender
- 3) Evaluate the role of pronouns in the healthcare setting

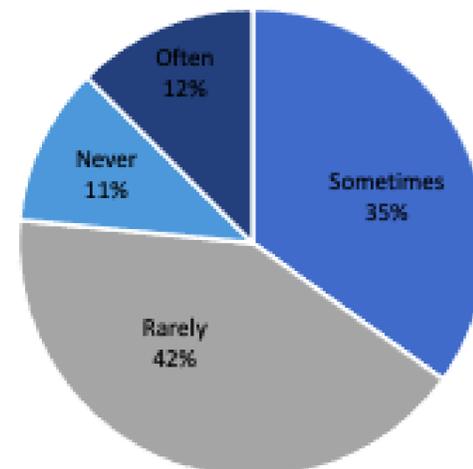
Methods

- Gender spectrum visual (Figure 1):
 - Developed by the research team
 - Respondents asked to select one box that best depicts their gender
- Respondents:
 - Diagnosed with gender dysphoria at our institution
- Survey development:
 - Assesses most and least inclusive ways of inquiring about gender (MCQs, FR, visual)
 - Qualtrics survey (Qualtrics Inc, Seattle, Washington)

Figure 1. Gender spectrum. The gender identities on the corners are “man,” “something else,” “woman,” and “agender.” Respondents are asked to select one box.

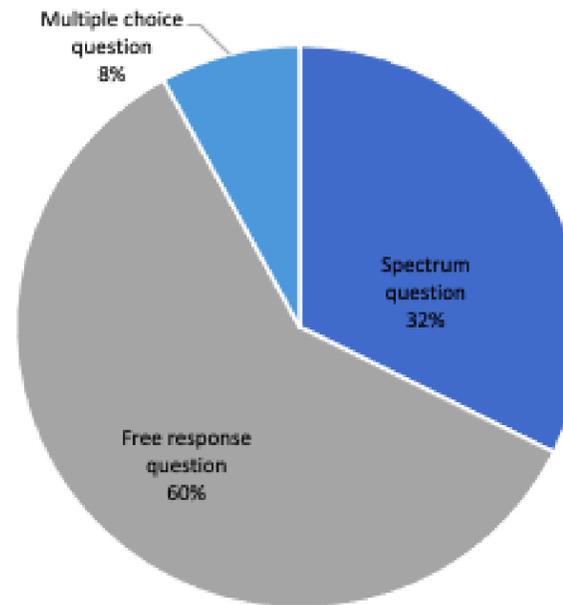


How often are you asked for your pronouns in a healthcare setting (n=212)?

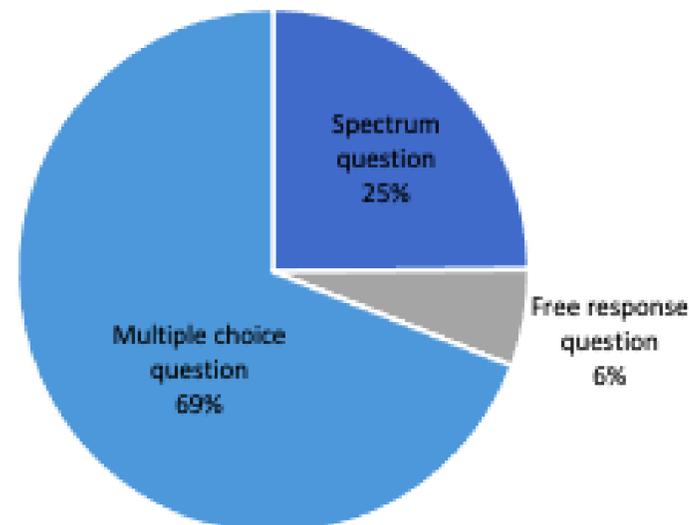


Results

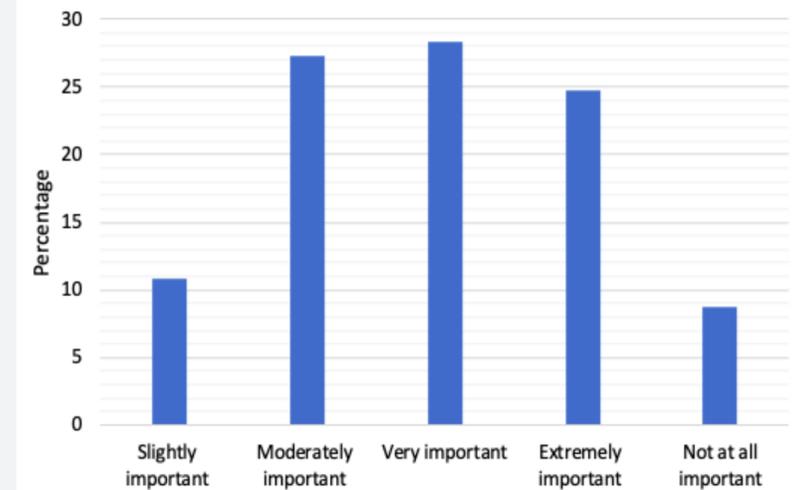
Most inclusive way of asking about gender (n=212):



Least inclusive way of asking about gender (n=212):



How important to you is it being asked about your pronouns in a healthcare setting (n=212)?



Conclusions

- Gender identity is nuanced
- The common MCQ format may be lacking in inclusivity
- FR and visual questions may better represent the nuances of gender
- Most patients agree that asking about pronouns is very or extremely important in a healthcare setting
 - However, patients are rarely or sometimes asked about them
- Formatting gender identity questionnaires is important for inclusivity
- Limitations:
 - Respondents only allowed to select one response or box, which may limit gender expression
 - Respondents report choosing “man” vs “transman” in the MCQ can be exclusive