

Mayo Clinic Minute: Coming out as LGBTQ to your health care provider

Video

Audio

	When filling out forms before seeing your health care provider, you might see a line asking about your sexual orientation or gender identity.	
Natalie Erbs, M.D. Family Medicine Mayo Clinic	"Sometimes it's hard to say the words out loud, but it's much easier to click a button. But again, we want to know that about you to get you the right care and get you to the right place."	
	But why does that matter?	
	Dr. Natalie Erbs is a family medicine physician at Mayo Clinic.	
Natalie Erbs, M.D. Family Medicine Mayo Clinic	"We want to know that about you so that we can get you the right care and get you to the right place."	
	Talking about sexual behaviors is essential when it comes to your health.	
Natalie Erbs, M.D. Family Medicine Mayo Clinic	"It affects what type of screenings you might need for certain sexually transmitted infections, depending on the type of sex you're having, what exposures you might have to other things like HIV. Some of my patients might qualify to be put on HIV prophylaxis to prevent HIV, depending on the type of sex and who they're having sex with."	
	Dr. Erbs says she hopes you choose to come out to your health care provider.	
Natalie Erbs, M.D. Family Medicine Mayo Clinic	"We in primary care want to see you, and we want to know about you and get to know you as a person."	
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm DeeDee Stiepan.	