



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

Kathy Anne Noble
President, Changeling Aspects
PO BOX 897
Cleveland QLD 4163

Dear Ms Noble,

Thank you for your email of 11 February 2010, to the Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon. Nicola Roxon MP, concerning the Healthcare Identifiers (HI) Service. The Minister has asked me to respond on her behalf.

In your email you indicate that your query concerning GLBTI people has not been answered. The email you received from ehealth@health.gov.au on 10 February 2010, was part of our regular update to stakeholders interested in the HI Service rather than a specific response to your query. If you do not wish to receive updates on the HI Service you can unsubscribe by emailing ehealth@health.gov.au.

In your earlier email of 20 January 2010 you raised the issue of pseudonyms. Pseudonyms may be issued by the HI Service in a range of special circumstances such as where an individual may be vulnerable or at risk. This option will not be limited to specific groups within the community, but will be available to any individual based on their circumstances and needs. The HI Service Operator will have arrangements in place to support this option and will make available information about the types of situations where the use of a pseudonym may be of assistance and how pseudonyms will work in practice.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liz Forman', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Liz Forman
Assistant Secretary
eHealth Branch

23 March 2010