

tips for clinicians

www.gaymenshealthandwellbeing.org

- **don't assume** gay, lesbian or bisexual patients will automatically disclose their sexual orientation to you and **recognise** how difficult disclosure may be
- **ask open ended** rather than closed questions
- **acknowledge** when a patient tells you they are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender
- **take time** to discuss with them if they have any needs with regards to their sexual orientation or transgender identity
- **remember** terms in common use are not without **ambiguity**
- **avoid** making **assumptions**
- **always** be able to justify the rationale behind asking probing questions about sexual activity
- **seek to explain** to patients why their sexual orientation may be relevant to the care they receive for a whole range of conditions
- **display LGBT** affirming imagery and resources within your consulting room