Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I write as a proud ally to the trans and gender diverse community.

I was disappointed to recently find that the options available for gender at your service were only male and female. If it is important for you to collect gender information, please ensure you do so using appropriate data collection.

The AusPATH position on gender data collection states that, “collecting data on gender using options variables such as ‘‘male or female’ or ‘male, female or transgender’ is contrary to best practice and is likely to confound analysis given that most trans and gender diverse people are simply male or female.”

A two-step methodology is recommended. This approach involves a question about the marker used to register an individual’s birth (male, female or another term) alongside a second question about an individual’s gender (male, female, non-binary, or another term). These simple questions are easy to understand and are acceptable to the broader general population.

Please update your systems using the above guideline. An example is:

**How do you describe your gender?**

* Man or Male
* Woman or Female
* Non-binary
* I use a different term (please specify)
* Prefer not to answer

**At birth, you were recorded as:**

* Male
* Female
* Another term (please specify)
* Prefer not to answer

Please also visit [www.transhub.org.au/allies](http://www.transhub.org.au/allies) to learn more about how to support trans and gender diverse people at your event / in your research.

Many thanks,

[Your name] \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_