

## **Ethical Issues in Relation to Trans Healthcare**

## Gabriel Enxuga, Advocate

The following discussion questions are provided as an additional educational tool to accompany this fireside chat video. Please feel free to select the questions that are most relevant to your committee or group, revise and adapt them as needed, etc. As always, we welcome feedback on this or any other NSHEN resource.

## Questions:

- What did you learn from this interview?
- According to a study conducted in 2012 by Bauer et al (see link below), 52% of the trans people interviewed had a negative experience within the ED. Does the high number of negative experiences surprise you? Why/why not?
- Gabriel Enxuga describes misgendering as a common problem that trans people are facing
  when seeking health care. Discuss different ways to prevent misgendering in the
  communication with patients and how you might react in the case of an accidental
  misgendering.
- Gabriel Enxuga suggests trying to use language in a more inclusive way to acknowledge and normalize the presence of trans people. In your opinion, what can be done to expand the way we think about gender?
- Where do you see your experiences and perceptions of gender influence the way you interact with other people?
- What can be done at a system level to cultivate understanding among physicians and other health care providers about transgender patients and their health care needs?
- Can you think of ways to enhance gender inclusivity at system level?

## Resources

Barton, A. New document aims to guide conversations between parents and children about gender identity. The Globe and Mail, May 9, 2018. <a href="https://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/health-and-fitness/article-new-document-aims-to-guide-conversations-between-parents-and-children">https://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/health-and-fitness/article-new-document-aims-to-guide-conversations-between-parents-and-children</a> [Accessed online on June 4, 2018]

Bouman, W.P.; Schwend, A.S.; Motmans, J.; Smiley, A.; Safer, J.D.; Deutch, M.B.; Adams, N.J.; Winter, S. Language and trans health. *International Journal of Transgenderism*, 18(1). <a href="https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15532739.2016.1262127">https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15532739.2016.1262127</a>

Bauer G.R., Scheim, A.I., Deutsch, M.B., Massarella, C. 2014. Reported Emergency Department Avoidance, Use, and Experiences of Transgender Persons in Ontario, Canada: Results From a Respondent-Driven Sampling Survey. *Annals of Emergency Medicine*. Vol 63 (6): 713-720.e1. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0196064413014534

Newhook, J.T., Winters, K., Pyne, J., Jamieson, A., Holmes, C. Feder, S., Pickett, S. and Sinnott, M-L. *Canadian Family Physician*, 2018 Volume 64(5):332-335. http://www.cfp.ca/content/64/5/332

Cavanaugh, T., Hopwood, R., Lambert, C. Informed Consent in the Medical Care of Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Patients. AMA Journal of Ethics. 2016 Volume 18 (11): 1147-1155.

Eyssel J., Koehler, A., Dekker A., Sehner, S., Nieder, T.O.. Needs and concerns of transgender individuals regarding interdisciplinary transgender healthcare: A non-clinical online survey. Plos one, August 28, 2017. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0183014

Kapusta, S.J. Misgendering and Its Moral Contestability. Hypatia, 2016, 31(3): 502-519. https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/hypa.12259

Marshall, Z. Wait Lists: Barriers to Trans Healthcare. Impact Ethics blog. July 29, 2016. <a href="https://impactethics.ca/2016/07/29/wait-lists-barriers-to-trans-healthcare/">https://impactethics.ca/2016/07/29/wait-lists-barriers-to-trans-healthcare/</a>

Rainbow Health Ontario. Trans primary care guide first online, interactive tool for Canadian healthcare providers. 2016.. <a href="http://sherbourne.on.ca/media-centre/trans-primary-care-guide-first-online-interactive-tool-canadian-healthcare-providers/?doing\_wp\_cron=1527710072.3137791156768798828125">http://sherbourne.on.ca/media-centre/trans-primary-care-guide-first-online-interactive-tool-canadian-healthcare-providers/?doing\_wp\_cron=1527710072.3137791156768798828125</a> [accessed on May 30, 2018]

Sallans, R.K. Lessons from a Transgender Patient for Health Care Professionals 2016. American Journal of Ethics, 2016 Volume 18 (1): 1139-1146. http://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/2016/11/mnar1-1611.html

Shannon, R. The Troubles with Transgender Healthcare. Podcast published 28.09.2017. http://www.wfuv.org/content/troubles-transgender-healthcare

The university of British Columbia, School of Nursing. 2018. Being safe, Being Me in the Atlantic Provinces. Results of the Canadian Trans Youth health Survey. http://saravyc.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2018/03/SARAVYC\_Trans-Youth-Health-Report Atlantic Final WEB.pdf

TV programs:

Sky's the limit, Queer Eye, season 2, episode 5. Air date, June 15, 2018. Available on Netflix

Some articles require access with an institutional login. If you need assistance in accessing an article please email NSHEN administrator Krista Mleczko-Skerry at <a href="mailto:Krista.Mleczko-Skerry@iwk.nshealth.ca">Krista.Mleczko-Skerry@iwk.nshealth.ca</a>