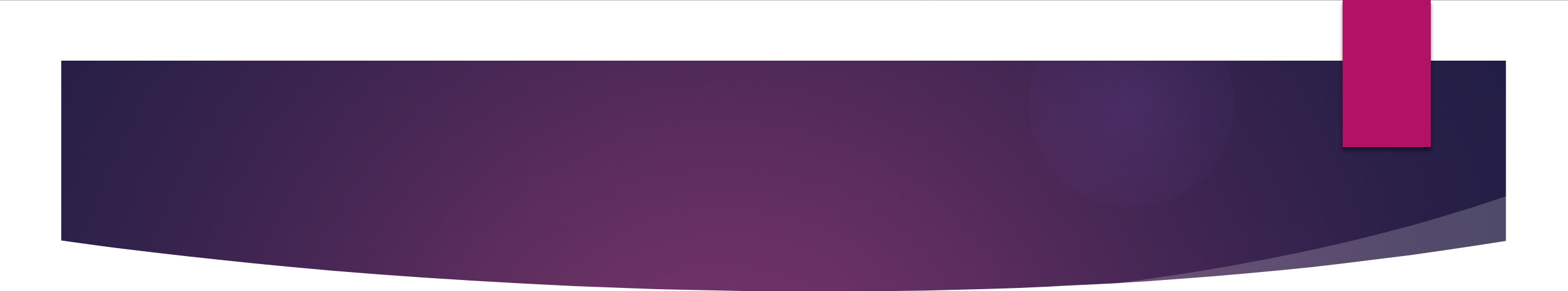


Queer Access to Healthcare



Your birth certificate
says you're 20" tall.



The fear of discrimination is as much of a barrier to healthcare as discrimination itself.



transgender patient refused care



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Doctors Refuse to Treat Trans Patients More Often Than You Think ...

<https://www.vice.com/.../doctors-refuse-to-treat-trans-patients-more-often-than-you-th...> ▼

Jan 29, 2018 - For **trans patients**, they may make a bad situation much worse. ... While the nurse practitioner's reasons for **refusing** Julian **care** were ...

When doctors refuse to see transgender patients, the consequences ...

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/...refuse...transgender-patients.../d063b01c-c960-11e7...>

Nov 26, 2017 - Some **reject** patients out of bias, others because they don't know how to ... concern that "we have no idea how to **care** for a **transgender patient**."

New Study Shows Why Transgender Patients Avoid Emergency Rooms

<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/.../transgender-health-emergency-rooms-training...> ▼

Mar 19, 2018 - But some hospitals are forging a path toward inclusive **care**. ... But for **transgender patients**, the experience can be even more harrowing. ... reported having at least one negative experience, including being **refused treatment**, ...

What
are we
scared
of?

transgender patient dies after being refused care



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EMS Denied Transgender Patient Care Causing Her Death, Alleges ...

<https://bklyner.com/ems-denied-transgender-patient-care-causing-her-death-alleges-sh...> ▼

Apr 2, 2013 - The allegations stem **from** a June 15, 2012, incident, when Smith's mother, Jenette Cox called 911 **after** Smith – **a transgender woman** who was ...

Tyra Hunter - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tyra_Hunter ▼

Tyra Hunter (1970 – August 7, 1995) was an African-American **transgender woman** who **died after being** injured as a passenger in a car accident and **being refused** emergency medical care.

Transgender activist dies after being 'denied treatment' for gun ...

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk> > News ▼

May 25, 2016 - **Transgender** activist **dies after being 'denied treatment'** for gun ... either the male or female wards **following** complaints **from** staff and **patients**.

'I've Seen A Lot Of People Die': Health Care System Overlooks Many ...

<https://www.npr.org/sections/.../health-care-system-fails-many-transgender-americans>

Nov 21, 2017 - Nearly a third of transgender people responding to an NPR poll say they ... if you are a **transgender woman** of color, that you will **die from** HIV," ...

Transgender woman refused treatment at Indiana hospital - Feministing

feministing.com/2010/08/.../transgender-woman-refused-treatment-at-indiana-hospital... ▼

Aug 2, 2010 - **Transgender woman refused treatment** at Indiana hospital ... did hospital staff ridicule her during the two-hour wait to see a doctor, but was thereafter **denied treatment** because she is transgender. ... **From** the sound of it, I think I'd have to strongly contest that. ... **It's Do or Die** Time on Trumpcare – Literally.

trump transgender health care



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Trump Administration Plan to Roll Back Health Care ...

<https://transequality.org/HCRL-FAQ> ▼

The **Trump** Administration has announced that it is planning to roll back an important regulation about the **Health Care** Rights Law, which protects **transgender** ...

Healthcare | National Center for Transgender Equality

<https://transequality.org/know-your-rights/healthcare> ▼

Under federal **and** state laws, it is illegal for **health** providers, **insurance** companies, ... Under the **Trump** Administration, HHS has said that it will not investigate ...

Trump Plan Would Cut Back Health Care Protections for Transgender ...

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/21/us/politics/trump-transgender-health-care.html>

Apr 21, 2018 - Advocates said the change could jeopardize the significant gains that **transgender** people have seen in access to **care**, including treatments for ...

'Transgender' Could Be Defined Out of Existence Under Trump ...

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/.../transgender-trump-administration-sex-definition.html>

Oct 21, 2018 - The **Trump** administration has sought to bar **transgender** people from ... For the last year, the Department of **Health and** Human Services has ...

The Trump administration's latest anti-transgender action, explained ...

<https://www.vox.com/...and.../trump-administration-lgbtq-transgender-discrimination-...> ▼

Oct 22, 2018 - According to Erica Green, Katie Benner, and Robert Pear at the Times, **Trump's**

Videos are a way to learn without being intrusive!

- ▶ “A Trans Man at the Doctor’s”
 - ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-h9WBtGHd4>
- ▶ “Why Are Many Doctors Scared of Transgender Patients?”
 - ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tG3LWxWZxg>
- ▶ There are so many more!

The LGB experience

- ▶ “make her comfortable” → “well we can’t talk to you about that”
- ▶ “is this your mother/husband?”
- ▶ “oh so you’re a ----”
- ▶ “we don’t know if lesbians even CAN get STIs so no need to test”
- ▶ “you might be pregnant without knowing it”
- ▶ “you might change your mind about pregnancy”

The Trans experience

- ▶ “you’re going to have to detransition”
- ▶ “but you referred to it as a boyfriend”
- ▶ “don’t come out because we can’t keep you safe”
- ▶ “who are THEY I only see one person go get the other person”
- ▶ “we’re really out of time but thanks for educating me”
- ▶ “oh, my COUSIN is transgender, I have a question”
- ▶ “we don’t deal with that here”
- ▶ “we don’t serve those here”

BEFORE Contact: Creating Comfort → Honesty

- ▶ Signal: posters on wall, flag on website, pronoun slot on paperwork
- ▶ Prominent statement on serving LGBTQ+ community
- ▶ Get rid of gendered language
 - ▶ “affects men and women”
 - ▶ “who is with you today”
 - ▶ “is there a partner you want us to talk to”
 - ▶ “is there a name different than the one on file you would prefer we use”
 - ▶ “your chart says she, is that correct?”

Creating Comfort → Honesty

- ▶ Mirror our language– if I say partner you can, if I say queer you can say queer community (don't call a PERSON a queer ever)
- ▶ Don't obsess over it.
 - ▶ "I like your rainbow pin!" Great.
 - ▶ "Does that mean you're gay? I love the gays!" Not great.
- ▶ No "ally cookies" should be expected
- ▶ Being discrete; you can think we're extra but don't tell us
- ▶ Normalize; we aren't 'special cases'
- ▶ Open ended questions
- ▶ Ask for feedback about culture of office; the expert is in front of you

DURING Contact: Conversation Notes

- ▶ Safety disconnect: what seems safe to you is not safe to us
- ▶ Context disconnect: what you mean vs what we hear
- ▶ No one expects you to get it perfect
- ▶ When you don't; apologize and keep moving
- ▶ We are defensive for valid reason– it's not about you
- ▶ The expert is in front of you
- ▶ You and the patient are a team
 - ▶ it's not you vs patient, it's you + patient vs illness.
 - ▶ You share the goal of wellness.

Asking the Question

- ▶ Do you ACTUALLY need to know this?
 - ▶ Is it relevant?
 - ▶ Is it intrusive?
 - ▶ Can you google it?
 - ▶ Would you ask a cisgender person?
- ▶ If yes:
 - ▶ Be polite/apologetic
 - ▶ Provide context
 - ▶ Acknowledge the discomfort
 - ▶ Believe them
 - ▶ Accept a no (for now)

Vocabulary matters

- ▶ Queer isn't a slur when it's a self-descriptor but it might be if you're NOT queer
 - ▶ "Transgender" is an ADJECTIVE not a noun
 - ▶ Intersex is about sex not about identity
 - ▶ "Identify as" is dismissive
 - ▶ "Preferred" is dismissive
 - ▶ Don't use words, slang, etc you don't use yourself
 - ▶ Different people will give you different definitions; respect who you're with
- What you mean vs what we hear * No one expects you to get it perfect

... but my paperwork...

There is no “perfect” way to ask these questions, but BOTH answers are important

- ▶ Checkboxes for identities (religion etc)
- ▶ Name to call you, AND, legal name (if different)
- ▶ Sex assigned at birth, AND, gender identity (if different)
 - ▶ Or, body part checklist to include info you need and not make assumptions about HOW transitions work