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LGBT Health - Transgender Persons



"Transgender" is a term that describes gender identity, gender expression, and behavior that does not conform with socially ascribed gender norms for one's biological sex at birth. Some people might alter their bodies with hormones or surgery so that their gender identity and biological sex at birth match more closely. Others may express gender in less permanent ways, including through clothing, hair, makeup, pronoun usage, and other gender expression behaviors. Still others choose not to alter their external appearance. Regardless, transgender people are unified by the desire to be seen and treated in a way consistent with how they self-identify.



Transgender people have many of the same health concerns as non-transgender people. There is a relative lack of data on transgender people but existing research suggests that transgender people have higher rates of

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adverse outcomes in substance abuse, HIV, depression, anxiety, self-harm, and violence.

Sexual orientation refers to the sex of people someone is attracted to and has sexual interest in, while gender identity refers to a person's internal understanding of his or her own gender. Someone who is transgender may identify as heterosexual, bisexual, or gay or lesbian.

The following selection of resources is intended to increase awareness of health issues and disparities affecting transgender people.

Hyperlinks marked  in the content below are Wisconsin resources.

For people who need medical interventions such as hormones or surgery, these might be covered under private insurance plans. Currently, Wisconsin BadgerCare, BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and State of Wisconsin employee health insurance (ETF) do not cover gender reassignment surgery or drugs related to gender reassignment or hormone replacement. Please contact your health insurance company to learn more details about what services are covered by your insurance.

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Protecting and promoting the health and safety of the people of Wisconsin.