Poster: Nursing Knowledge and Attitudes Toward Trans* and Gender-Nonconforming Patients

Christine Humphrey
christine.humphrey@otterbein.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/stu_doc

Recommended Citation
Humphrey, Christine, "Poster: Nursing Knowledge and Attitudes Toward Trans* and Gender-Nonconforming Patients" (2018). Doctor of Nursing Practice Scholarly Projects. 32.
https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/stu_doc/32

This Project is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Research & Creative Work at Digital Commons @ Otterbein. It has been accepted for inclusion in Doctor of Nursing Practice Scholarly Projects by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Otterbein. For more information, please contact shickey@otterbein.edu.
Nursing Knowledge and Attitudes Toward Trans* and Gender-Nonconforming Patients

Christine Humphrey, MSN, MBA, RN
Department of Ambulatory Specialty Clinics

Purpose

• To impact nursing knowledge and attitudes toward trans* and gender-nonconforming patients and positively influence wellness/population health.

Scripting Do’s and Don’ts

• Use gender-neutral terms and avoid pronouns if you are unsure
  • Instead of: “How may I help you, sir?”
  • Say: “How may I help you?”
  • Instead of: “She is here for her appointment.”
  • Say: “The patient is here in the waiting room.”
  • Instead of: “What are your mother and fathers’ names?”
  • Say: “What are your parent(s) or guardian(s)’ names?”
  • Instead of: “Do you have a wife?”
  • Say: “Are you in a relationship?” or “Do you have a partner?”

• Introduce yourself with pronouns to help normalize the process.
  • If you are unsure about a patient’s preferred name or pronouns:
    • “I would like to be respectful—what name and pronouns would you like me to use?”
  • If a patient’s name does not match insurance or medical records:
    • “Could your chart/insurance be under a different name?”
    • “What is the name on your insurance?”
  • If you accidentally use the wrong term or pronoun:
    • “I’m sorry. I didn’t mean to be disrespectful.”

Avoid Assumptions

• Don’t assume you know a person’s gender identity or sexual orientation based on how they look or sound
• Don’t assume how a person wants to be described
• Don’t assume all of your patients are heterosexual and a person whose gender identity corresponds with biological sex assigned at birth (cisgender)

Perceptions

• Literature shows the following perception trends of nurses and midwives
  • Assumption that all people are heterosexual (heteronormativity) across healthcare
  • Fear or hatred of homosexuals (queerphobia)
  • Rainbow of attitudes – affirmation, advocacy, equal treatment, intrusion, judgement
  • Learning diversity – proactive and appropriate education to insufficient education and skills

• What is YOUR perception?
  • Do you assume heteronormativity?
  • Do you feel uncomfortable working with trans* and gender non-conforming patients?
  • Do you have conscious bias or judgement toward this population?
  • Do you or a provider you work with have a lack of trans* knowledge?

Pronouns

• Despite outward appearance, a person’s preferred pronoun may differ.
• If you are ever unsure of an individual’s pronoun, ASK!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjective</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Possessive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>She</td>
<td>Her</td>
<td>Hers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He</td>
<td>Him</td>
<td>His</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They</td>
<td>Them</td>
<td>Theirs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ze</td>
<td>Zim</td>
<td>Zirs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sex vs. Gender

• Biological sex = (noun) is the determination of an infant’s sex at birth. Anatomical characteristics are used to classify an infant as female or male or intersex.
• Gender identity = (noun) an individual’s internal sense of being and how a person identifies. Common labels may include man, woman, genderqueer, trans* or other diverse gender identities.

Questions?

Contact Information
Christine.Humphrey@nationwidechildrens.org

References


Trans* is an umbrella term inclusive of any person who is not the traditional cisgender woman/man

Sex vs. Gender

1. Biological sex is the determination of an infant's sex at birth. Anatomical characteristics are used to classify an infant as female or male or intersex.
2. Gender identity is an individual's internal sense of being and how a person identifies. Common labels may include man, woman, genderqueer, trans* or other diverse gender identities.

Sex vs. Gender