

# Providing Culturally Competent Translational to Practice Evidence-based Assessments to the Transgender Patient



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## Significance

- Non-specific preoperative assessment tools do not meet the diverse and multi-faceted needs of transgender patients.
- The Joint Commission mandates that hospitals meet the standards for “Assessment of Patients”.
- Transgender patients have unique and complicated issues such as a need to for medication reconciliation, culture awareness, and higher economic insecurity.
- Evidence suggested that healthcare providers are not adequately trained to meet the pre-anesthetic assessment needs of the transgender patients.

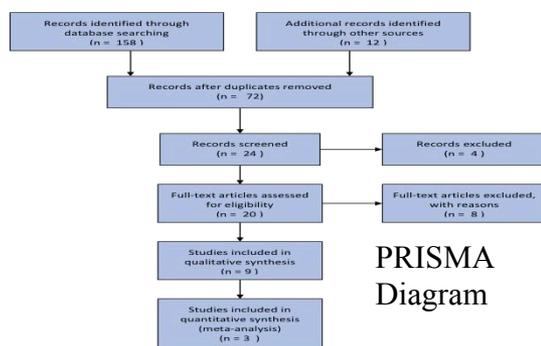
## Purpose

- Postulate the evidence-based anesthetic risk factors associated with transgender patients.
- Identify the relevant domains for an evidence-based risk assessment tool that focuses on anesthetic risk factors associated with transgender patients.

## Research Questions

- Is there a need for a targeted transgender preoperative assessment checklist?
- What are the primary risk factors associated with poor outcomes in the transgender patient that are missed in a preoperative assessment?
- What does the research identify as cultural barriers to appropriate anesthesia preoperative assessment of the transgender patient?
- What are the evidenced based domains that should be addressed in a targeted pre-op assessment tool for transgendered patients.

## Method



Transgender Preoperative Checklist		Patient Label	
Procedure: _____			
Legal Name: _____		Preferred Name: _____	
Gender Identity: Female Male They/Them Other: _____			
Emergency Contact: _____		Relationship: _____	
Hospital Policy on Patient Identity for Consent			
Transgender person: MtF or FtM If FtM Pregnancy Test: Negative or Positive			
Previous Surgeries: _____		Current Medications: _____	
Face/ Neck /Vocal Surgery: Yes No		Hormones _____	
Description _____		Length of time on hormones _____	
Anesthesia Complications: _____		Antidepressants _____	
_____		Drug Allergies _____	
_____		_____	
<b>Health History:</b>			
Check	Do you have or had a history of:	Check	Do you have or had a history of:
<input type="checkbox"/>	HIV Treatment: Yes or No Medications: Last taken:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Injectables/Fillers Location: Date: Health Problems:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alcohol Abuse: Yes or No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Blood Clot/DVT Location
<input type="checkbox"/>	Illicit Drug Use Name: Last Used: In Recovery: Yes or No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Health Disorder: Triggers: Relieved by:

## Results

- No one preoperative assessment tool is able to effectively meet the needs of each individualized patient.
- Transgender patients present with complicated health issues that the average anesthesia provider does not encounter on a consistent basis.
- Critical domains of disparity were identified as:
  - **gender labels-** description of sex on the anesthesia preoperative assessment
  - **health history-** barriers to healthcare and health related services and higher rates of alcoholism, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, smoking, Hepatitis C, and mental health issues.
  - **medications-** estrogen can cause thromboembolisms and testosterone can cause erythrocytosis. Transgender men have a higher instance of pregnancy with inconsistent testosterone use.
  - **physical exam-** A generic preoperative assessment relies on the provider ascertaining his or her own knowledge of transgender assessment.
- The literature demonstrates a clinical significance between lack of provider education on transgender patients and poor patient outcomes.

## Discussion

- A practice management preoperative assessment checklist is needed to meet the needs of the transgender patient.
- Meta-analysis to identify the most frequently overlooked, but critically important risk factors anesthesia providers need to incorporate into their preoperative evaluation
- Implement a transgender-specific preoperative checklist to improve outcomes
- Educate providers on checklist
- Test anesthesia providers on transgender-specific risk factors and associated protocols.

## Conclusion

- An evidence-based practice checklist makes cultural competent providers and improves outcomes for transgender patient.
- There are transgender-specific risk-factors that can be overlooked in preoperative anesthesia practice.
- A transgender-specific checklist can help practitioners avoid missing those risk factors before the procedure and The checklist educates providers and improves transgender patient-outcomes.

Getting to Know Gender-Neutral Pronouns!					
Traditional Masculine	He laughed	I called him	His eyes gleam	That is his	He likes himself
Traditional Feminine	She laughed	I called her	Her eyes gleam	That is hers	She likes herself
Gender Neutral (Singular They)	They laughed	I called them	Their eyes gleam	That is theirs	They like themselves
Gender Neutral (Ze)	Ze laughed (pronounced: "zee" as in the letter "z")	I called hir (pronounced: "here")	Hir eyes gleam (pronounced: "here")	That is hirs (pronounced: "hairs")	Ze likes hirself (pronounced: "here-self")