



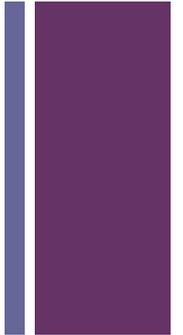
# Caring for Transgender Patients

**Presented by Andrew Keaster, MD**

Friday, August 14, 11:00AM

Fawcett Center at OSU

# + Scenario



You are registering a 30 year-old person who states “ My name is Cameron and I have an appointment with Dr Keaster at 9:15.” On the schedule, Dr Keaster’s 9:15 patient is named Charity White. The person standing before you has an obvious female appearance. They produce an ID confirming their legal name is Charity. How do you proceed?

- *Do you check this person in? How do you address them?*

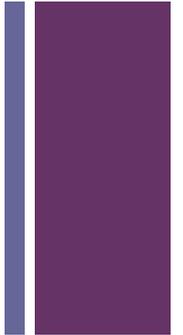


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# Jargon101

Defining Terms

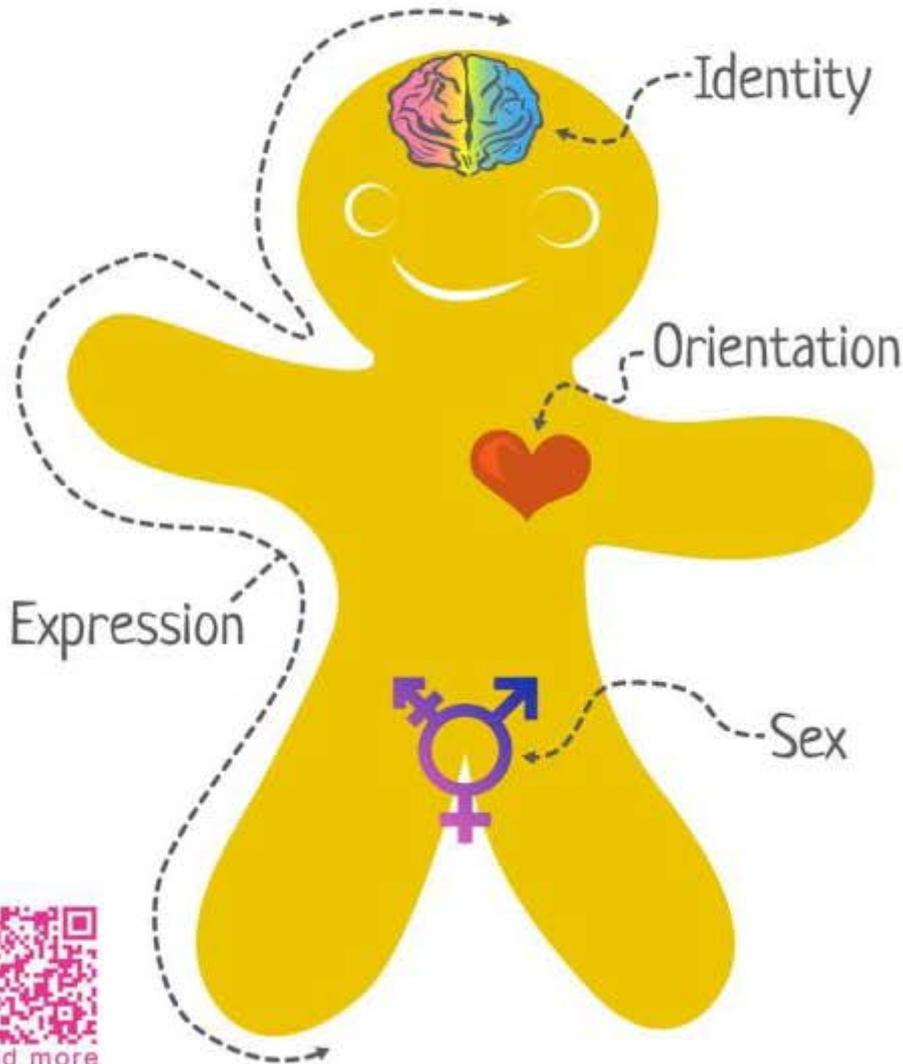
# + Three Basic Concepts



- Biologic Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- Gender
  - Gender Identity
  - Gender Expression

# The Genderbread Person

by [www.ItsPronouncedMetrosexual.com](http://www.ItsPronouncedMetrosexual.com)

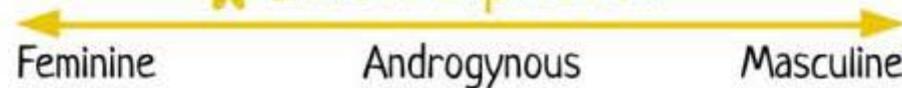


## Gender Identity



Gender identity is how you, in your head, think about yourself. It's the chemistry that composes you (e.g., hormonal levels) and how you interpret what that means.

## Gender Expression



Gender expression is how you demonstrate your gender (based on traditional gender roles) through the ways you act, dress, behave, and interact.

## Biological Sex



Biological sex refers to the objectively measurable organs, hormones, and chromosomes. Female = vagina, ovaries, XX chromosomes; male = penis, testes, XY chromosomes; intersex = a combination of the two.

## Sexual Orientation



Sexual orientation is who you are physically, spiritually, and emotionally attracted to, based on their sex/gender in relation to your own.



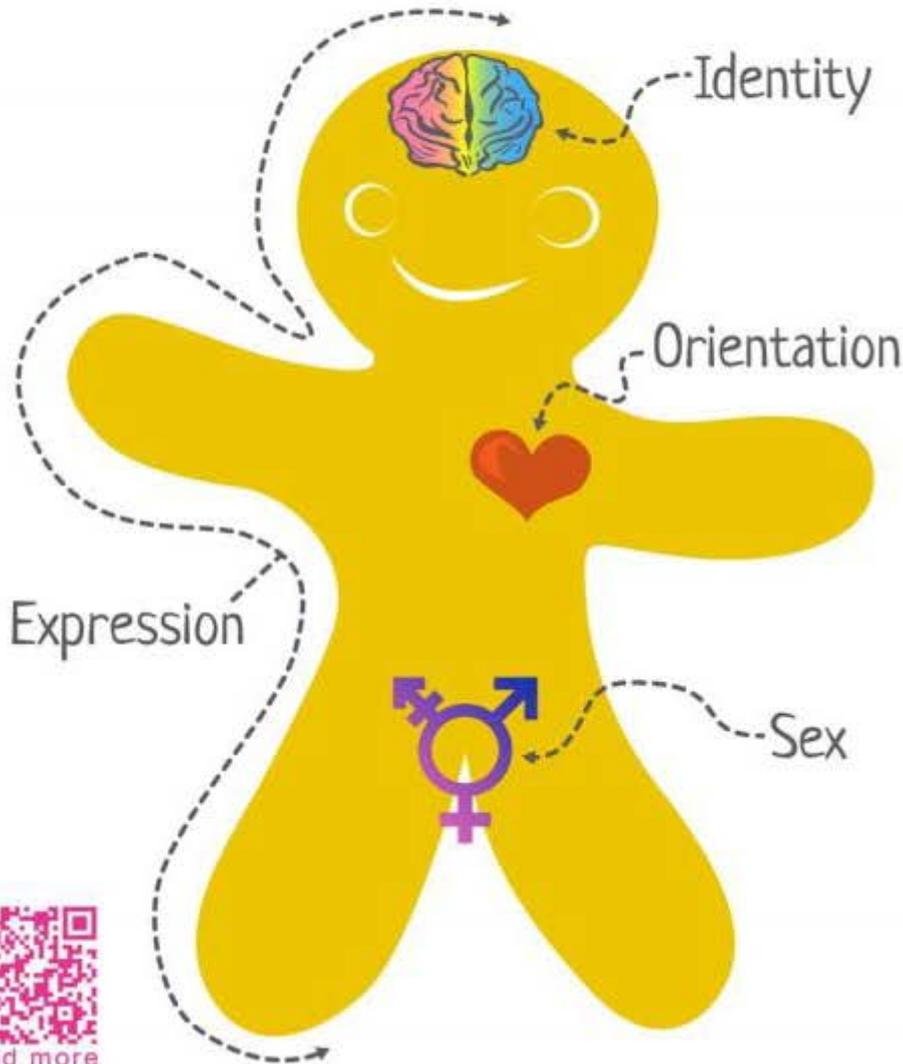
read more

# + Gender

- Gender: the psychological, cultural, or behavioral traits typically associated with one sex
- Gender Identity: each person's deeply felt internal and individual experience of gender
- Gender Expression: all of the external characteristics and behaviors that are socially defined as either masculine or feminine

# The Genderbread Person

by [www.ItsPronouncedMetrosexual.com](http://www.ItsPronouncedMetrosexual.com)



## Gender Identity

← Woman Genderqueer → Man

Gender identity is how you, in your head, think about yourself. It's the chemistry that composes you (e.g., hormonal levels) and how you interpret what that means.

## Gender Expression

← Feminine Androgynous → Masculine

Gender expression is how you demonstrate your gender (based on traditional gender roles) through the ways you act, dress, behave, and interact.

## Biological Sex

← Female Intersex → Male

Biological sex refers to the objectively measurable organs, hormones, and chromosomes. Female = vagina, ovaries, XX chromosomes; male = penis, testes, XY chromosomes; intersex = a combination of the two.

## Sexual Orientation

← Heterosexual Bisexual → Homosexual

Sexual orientation is who you are physically, spiritually, and emotionally attracted to, based on their sex/gender in relation to your own.



read more



# Four Basic Concepts – Advanced:

will not be covered today but included for reference



## ■ Biologic Sex

- Intersex, DSD

## ■ Sexual Orientation

- Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Asexual, Pansexual, Questioning

## ■ Gender

- Gender Identity

- Transgender, Cisgender, MTF, FTM, Queer

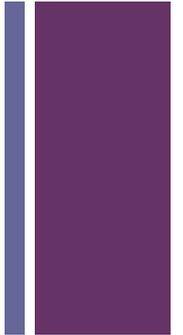
- Gender Expression

- Masculine, Feminine, Androgynous

# + Biologic Sex

- Intersex: individuals born with ambiguous genitalia, or more broadly speaking, individuals with a variety of conditions involving anomalies of the sex chromosomes, gonads, reproductive ducts, and genitalia
- Infants are traditionally assigned either a male or female gender at birth; eventual gender identity occasionally does not correlate with gender designation at birth

# + Sexual Orientation



- LGBT: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
- Gay: man who is attracted to males
- Lesbian: woman who is attracted to females
- Bisexual: people who have (or desire to have) an intimate relationship with individuals of the same or different sex
- Asexual: people with no sexual desire; different from the choice to remain celibate



# Gender

- Gender: the behavioral, cultural, or psychological traits typically associated with one sex
- Transgender: A term for people whose gender identity or expression is different from those typically associated with their assigned sex at birth.
  - Transgender Man (“female-to-male” or “FTM”): A term for a transgender individual who currently identifies as a man
  - Transgender Woman (“male-to-female” or “MTF”): A term for a transgender individual who currently identifies as a woman
- Transsexual: An older term for people whose gender identity is different from their assigned sex at birth who seeks to transition from male to female or female to male. Many do not prefer this term because it is thought to sound overly clinical.
- Gender Non-conforming: A term for individuals whose gender expression is different from societal expectations related to gender



# + Why Is This Important?

Transgender Health Disparities  
and the National Transgender  
Discrimination Survey

# + National Transgender Discrimination Survey

- 2011 survey of 6,450 transgender and gender non-conforming individuals
- Racially and socioeconomically diverse sample
- Respondents from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands
- Survey topics include: Education, Employment, Health, Family Life, Housing, Public Accommodations, Identification Documents, and Police and Incarceration

Grant, Jaime M., Lisa A. Mottet, Justin Tanis, Jack Harrison, Jody L. Herman, and Mara Keisling. *Injustice at Every Turn: A Report of the National Transgender Discrimination Survey*. Washington: National Center for Transgender Equality and National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 2011.

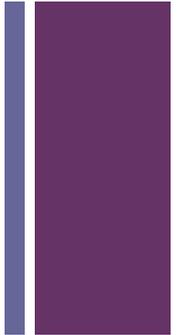
# + Key Findings for Ohio

- 81% reported experiencing harassment or mistreatment at work
- Those who expressed a trans or gender non-conforming identity in grades K-12 experienced significant harassment (86%), physical assault (40%), and sexual violence (14%)
- 17% were unemployed compared to 7% of nation at time of survey
- 13% had become homeless because of their gender identity/expression
- 39% reported being uncomfortable seeking police assistance





# Health Care Discrimination and Health Outcomes for Ohio



- 21% were refused medical care due to their gender identity/expression
- 1.03% were HIV positive, compared to the general population rate of 0.6%
- 27% postponed needed medical care when sick or injured, due to discrimination
- 34% of respondents had employer-based health insurance, compared to 59% of the general population
- 44% reported attempting suicide at some point in their life, compared to 1.6% of the general population



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# What Can We Do?

A few simple suggestions



# Communicating with Trans Persons

Follow their lead: *How do they describe themselves?*  
*Their partners?*

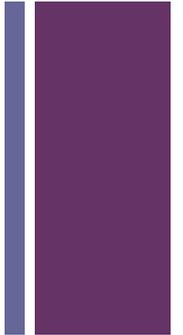
If in doubt, ask them what terms they prefer.

If you “slip up”, apologize and ask the person what they prefer. They will appreciate your sincerity and good intentions.

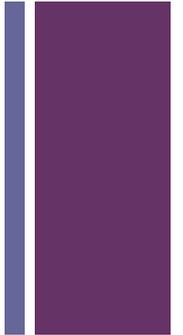
Frequently assess your own level of comfort and preconceptions.

Communicate openly with our patients/staff without fear of “offending” or “saying something wrong”.

Avoid assumptions



# + Using Inclusive Language



## Examples of questions assuming heterosexuality

“Are you married or single?”

“If you are sexually active, do you use contraception?”

“Who are your mother and father?”

## Examples of inclusive questions

“Are you currently in an intimate relationship?”

“What's your level of commitment?”

“Who are your parents?”

“Are you sexually active with men, women or both?”

“If you are sexually active, do you use protection?”



# Avoid Assumptions

## Don't assume that...

- Patients are heterosexual just because they haven't said otherwise. Don't assume that any patient is a man/male or woman/female.
- LGBT patients are not married or do not have children.
- Self-identified gay men never have sex with women or that lesbians never have sex with men, or that straight people never have sex with a member of the same sex
- Violence does not occur in LGBT couples.
- Avoid stereotypes: that all men have penises and woman have ovaries, that all lesbians are in a monogamous relationship and play softball, that people who identify as transgender are “gay” or “messed up”—individuals are unique in their biologic sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression.





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Questions?