#### Transgender patient care: a two-part series

#### Session 1 Wednesday, May 4

Understanding transgender identities and the unique care needs of transgender people

#### Session 2 Monday, May 23

How to improve care and the care experience for transgender people

We strongly encourage you join the call by receiving a call-back.

If you choose to dial-in, please be sure to use your attendee # found under the "Event Info" tab.



- This session will be recorded
- Slides and recording will be posted on CIN website within a week
   –www.chcf.org/cin
- To ask a question:
  - Logistical questions: Use CHAT to the Host
  - Questions for Speakers : Use CHAT to ALL
- •Survey: please take a moment at the end of the webinar to give feedback

California mprovement Network

#### Today's Speakers



JM Jaffe Trans Health Manager Lyon-Martin Health Services



JoAnne Keatley, MSW Director UCSF Center of Excellence for Transgender Health





# Achieving Excellence in Transgender Patient Care

#### JoAnne Keatley, MSW Director, CoE for Transgender Health

Our mission is to increase access to comprehensive, effective, and affirming healthcare services for trans and gender-variant communities.



Center of Excellence for Transgender Health University of California, San Francisco

- At UCSF since 1999 (Formative research)
- CoE Founded in 2007
- CoE builds on the strengths of two well known centers: Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center (PAETC) and Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS - Research Arm)

### Groundbreaking Trans Research

- Injustice at Every Turn: A Report of the National Transgender Discrimination
   Survey (Grant, Mottet, Tanis et al 2011)
- 6,450 respondents (largest survey of trans people to date)
- A diverse set of people, from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands, completed online or paper surveys.

#### MEDICAL PROVIDERS' TRANSGENDER HEALTHCARE "LACK OF KNOWLEDGE"

Respondents "often encountered ignorance about basic aspects of transgender health and found themselves required to "teach my provider" to obtain appropriate care. Fully **50% of study respondents reported having to teach providers** about some aspect of their health needs"

# **Barriers to Care**

- Anti-transgender bias in care,
- Disrespect,
- Refusal of care,
- Verbal harassment,
- Physical and sexual abuse.
- Trans people of color and low-income respondents faced elevated risk of poor health outcomes than the sample as a whole.

Injustice at Every Turn: A Report of the National Transgender Discrimination
 Survey NCTE 2011

## **Barriers to Care**

- Refusal of healthcare: 19% refused care due to their gender identity
- High HIV Rates: Over **4** times the national average, with higher rates among TWOC.
- Postponing of Care: 28% reported delaying care due to fear of discrimination
- Affordability: 48% postponed care because they could not afford

### Discrimination in Public Accommodations

- Over half (53%) of respondents reported being verbally harassed or disrespected in a place of public accommodation, including hotels, restaurants, buses, airports and government agencies.
- One fifth (22%) were denied equal treatment by a government agency or official
- One fourth (25%) reported being harassed or disrespected in a Doctor' s Office or Hospital

# Anti-Discrimination Laws

- Some jurisdictions (less than one hundred) explicitly protect people based on gender identity/expression.
- Includes 18 States plus the District of Columbia
- 37% of Americans live in an area which ban discrimination based on gender identity or expression

# Patient Intake

- What is your gender or gender identity?
  - Male
  - Female
  - Transgender Male/Transman
  - Transgender Female/Transwoman
  - Genderqueer
  - Other: please specify\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Patient Intake

- What sex were you assigned at birth?
  - Male
  - Female
  - Decline to state



# Patient Intake

- What pronouns do you prefer?
  - Fill-in-the-blank
  - He, she; hir, ze, they, etc.



# **Physical Exam**

- Assess for immediate health needs
- Treat the presenting issue and assess the health of organs/body parts that are present
- Always respect patient's stated gender
  Delay sensitive exams until they are necessary

# **Electronic Medical Records**

- Usually require modification
- Confidentiality issues



### Navigating Insurance Problems

- Procedures coded for sex
- Treatments frequently denied for trans patients
- Physicians can help eliminate stigma

#### Sex Segregated Systems

- Restrooms
- Secure facilities

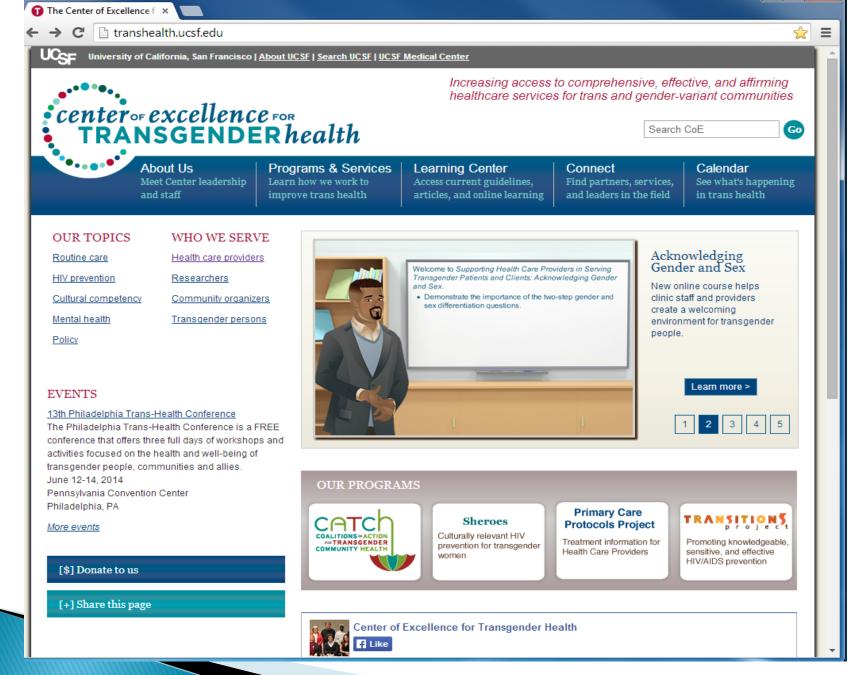


### **Good Treatment Practices**

- Use proper pronouns with all clients
- Get clinical supervision if you have issues or feelings about working with trans individuals.
- Accommodate trans clients desire/need to continue the use of hormones
- Facilitate trans clients using "street" hormones to obtain competent medical care

### **Good Treatment Practices**

- Develop a bathroom policy based on gender self-identities and gender roles.
- Create and maintain a safe environment for all trans clients.
- Develop and post nondiscrimination policy that explicitly includes gender identity.
- Provide and encourage training on trans healthcare issues.



"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane." <u>Martin Luther King Jr.</u>



#### Thank you for being part of the solution!



JoAnne G Keatley, MSW Email: joanne.keatley@ucsf.edu 415-476-6146

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