

## **MEDICAL ASSOCIATION STATEMENTS SUPPORTING NONDISCRIMINATORY COVERAGE**

### **American Medical Association**

Removing Financial Barriers to Care for Transgender Patients (2008)

An established body of medical research demonstrates the effectiveness of mental health care, hormone therapy, and sex reassignment surgery as forms of therapeutic treatment for many people diagnosed with GID, and . . . health experts in GID, including WPATH, have rejected the myth that such treatments are 'cosmetic' or 'experimental' and have recognized that these treatments can provide safe and effective treatment for a serious health condition.... Therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the AMA supports public and private health insurance coverage for treatment of gender identity disorder.

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/our-people/member-groups-sections/glb-t-advisory-committee/ama-policy-regarding-sexual-orientation.page>

### **American Psychiatric Association**

Position Statement on Access to Care for Transgender and Gender Diverse Individuals (2018)

The American Psychiatric Association: 1. Recognizes that appropriately evaluated transgender and gender diverse individuals can benefit greatly from medical and surgical gender-affirming treatments. 2. Advocates for removal of barriers to care and supports both public and private health insurance coverage for gender transition treatment. 3. Opposes categorical exclusions of coverage for such medically necessary treatment when prescribed by a physician. 4. Supports evidence-based coverage of all gender-affirming procedures which would help the mental well-being of gender diverse individuals.

<https://www.psychiatry.org/File%20Library/About-APA/Organization-Documents-Policies/Policies/Position-2018-Access-to-Care-for-Transgender-and-Gender-Diverse-Individuals.pdf>

### **American Psychological Association**

Policy Statement on Transgender, Gender Identity and Gender Expression Non-Discrimination (2008)

**Whereas** gender variant and transgender people may be denied appropriate gender transition related medical and mental health care despite evidence that appropriately evaluated individuals benefit from gender transition treatments....Therefore be it further resolved that APA recognizes the efficacy, benefit and medical necessity of gender transition treatments for appropriately evaluated individuals and calls upon public and private insurers to cover these medically necessary treatments.

<http://www.apa.org/about/policy/transgender.aspx>

### **American Academy of Family Physicians**

Resolution No. 1004: Transgender Care (2012)

RESOLVED, That the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) support efforts to require insurers to provide coverage for comprehensive care of transgendered individuals including medical care, screening tests based on medical need rather than gender, mental health care, and, when medically necessary, gender reassignment surgery.

[http://www.aafp.org/dam/AAFP/documents/about\\_us/special\\_constituencies/2012RCAR\\_Advocacy.pdf](http://www.aafp.org/dam/AAFP/documents/about_us/special_constituencies/2012RCAR_Advocacy.pdf)

### **American Academy of Pediatrics**

Ensuring Comprehensive Care and Support for Transgender and Gender-Diverse Children and Adolescents (2018)

Any discrimination based on gender identity or expression, real or perceived, is damaging to the socioemotional health of children, families, and society. In particular, the AAP recommends the following: 1. That youth who identify as TGD [transgender and gender diverse] have access to comprehensive, gender-affirming, and developmentally appropriate health care that is provided in a safe and inclusive clinical space;... 4. That insurance plans offer coverage for medical, psychological, and when indicated, surgical gender-affirming interventions;...

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/early/2018/09/13/peds.2018-2162.full.pdf>

### **American College of Physicians**

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health Disparities (2015)

Policies that are discriminatory toward the LGBT community, or are no longer supported by empirical research, continue to reinforce the environmental and social factors that can affect the mental and physical well-being of LGBT persons.... The American College of Physicians recommends that public and private health benefit plans include comprehensive transgender health care services and provide all covered services to transgender persons as they would all other beneficiaries.

<http://annals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2292051>

### **American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists**

No. 512: Health Care for Transgender Individuals (2011)

Within the medical community, transgender individuals face significant barriers to health care. This includes the failure of most health insurance plans to cover the cost of mental health services, cross-sex hormone therapy, or gender affirmation surgery. This barrier exists despite evidence that such treatments are safe and effective and that cross-gender behavior and gender identity issues are not an issue of choice for the individual and cannot be reversed with psychiatric treatment.... The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, therefore, urges public and private health insurance plans to cover the treatment of gender identity disorder.

<http://www.acog.org/Resources-And-Publications/Committee-Opinions/Committee-on-Health-Care-for-Underserved-Women/Health-Care-for-Transgender-Individuals>

### **Endocrine Society**

Transgender Health

There is a durable biological underpinning to gender identity that should be considered in policy determinations. Medical intervention for transgender individuals (including both hormone therapy and medically indicated surgery) is effective, relatively safe (when appropriately monitored), and has been established as the standard of care. Federal and private insurers should cover such interventions as prescribed by a physician as well as the appropriate medical screenings that are recommended for all body tissues that a person may have. Increased funding for national research programs is needed to close the gaps in knowledge regarding transgender medical care and should be made a priority.

[https://www.endocrine.org/-/media/endosociety/files/advocacy-and-outreach/positionstatements/2017/position\\_statement\\_transgender\\_health.pdf?la=en](https://www.endocrine.org/-/media/endosociety/files/advocacy-and-outreach/positionstatements/2017/position_statement_transgender_health.pdf?la=en)

## **National Association of Social Workers**

Policy Statement on Transgender and Gender Identity Issues (Revision) (2008)

NASW supports the rights of all individuals to receive health insurance and other health coverage without discrimination on the basis of gender identity, and specifically without exclusion of services related to transgender or transsexual transition (or 'sex change'), in order to receive medical and mental health services through their primary care physician and the appropriate referrals to medical specialists, which may include hormone replacement therapy, surgical interventions, prosthetic devices, and other medical procedures.

<http://www.socialworkers.org/da/da2008/finalvoting/documents/Transgender%20nd%20round%20-%20Clean.pdf>

## **World Professional Association for Transgender Health**

Clarification on Medical Necessity of Treatment, Sex Reassignment, and Insurance Coverage in the U.S.A.

[G]ender affirming/confirming treatments and surgical procedures, properly indicated and performed as provided by the Standards of Care, have proven to be beneficial and effective in the treatment of individuals with transsexualism or gender dysphoria. Gender affirming/confirming surgery, also known as sex reassignment surgery, plays an undisputed role in contributing toward favorable outcomes. Treatment includes legal name and sex or gender change on identity documents, as well as medically necessary hormone treatment, counseling, psychotherapy, and other medical procedures required to effectively treat an individual's gender dysphoria.

The medical procedures attendant to gender affirming/confirming surgeries are not 'cosmetic' or 'elective' or for the mere convenience of the patient. These reconstructive procedures are not optional in any meaningful sense, but are understood to be medically necessary for the treatment of the diagnosed condition.

<https://www.wpath.org/newsroom/medical-necessity-statement>