Exposure to Transgender-Related Care and its Perceived Importance in Urology Residency

Geolani Dy, Nathan Osbun, Shane Morrison, David Grant, Paul Merguerian
The Transgender Education Study Group

Sexual Medicine Society of North America
Fall Meeting
November 5, 2016
Background

• Transgender (TG) awareness is growing in politics and media

• Insurance companies are covering TG-related health care

• Healthcare professionals will encounter an increasing number of TG patients
Purpose

- Evaluate exposure to TG-related care and education in urology residencies
- Assess resident perceptions of importance of TG education in training
Methods

• Survey
  – Demographics
  – Clinical/surgical exposure
  – Didactic education
  – Importance of residency/fellowship training in TG surgical care

• Targeted liaisons at programs throughout the country to distribute co-residents

• Excluded interns and fellows
Survey Sent to 401 Residents

294 Respondents

5 Declined to Participate

289 Agreed to Participate

72% response rate

Number of Participants by Region

West: 59
North Central: 67
South Central: 30
Northeast: 0
New England: 32
New York: 12
Mid-Atlantic: 41
Southeastern: 48
Exposure to TG Care/Education Is Regionally Dependent

Residents Reporting Transgender Educational Exposure

- Overall: 54%
- Western: 74%
- New England: 47%
- New York: 33%
- Mid-Atlantic: 34%
- North Central: 72%
- Southeastern: 40%
- South Central: 40%
Direct Patient Interaction Predominates Over Didactic Education in TG Exposure

- Psychiatric: Didactic 7%, Direct Patient Care 23%, p<0.001
- Medical: Didactic 6%, Direct Patient Care 17%, p<0.001
- Surgical: Didactic 11%, Direct Patient Care 33%, p<0.001
Exposure to TG Content Influences Perceived Importance

Prior Exposure to Transgender Content

Percent of Respondents

Yes

No

Neutral/Not important

Important

p=0.01
Perceived Importance of TG Education Varies by Gender and Region

p < 0.001
Summary

• Regional disparities in TG education and attitudes
• Gap exists between didactic education and direct patient exposure
• Prior patient exposure and female gender associated with favorable attitudes
Discussion

- TG patients deserve high quality care regardless of personal opinions
- Urologists are essential in care of TG patients
- Creating a well-trained workforce may help address health disparities
Transgender Education Study Group

Natalia Ballesteros, Christi Butler, Amanda Chi, Paul Chung, Eugene Cone, Michael Davenport, Keara Decotiis, Daniel Greene, Joshua Halpern, Esther Han, Jessica Hannick, Tammy Ho, Michelle Kim, Dana Kivlin, Amy Luckenbaugh, Vignesh Packiam, Chintan Patel, Jeffrey Pearl, Matthew Pollard, Rachel Rubin, Kymora Scotland, Sophie Spencer, Lindsay Yuh