

Overdiagnosed but Underserved : Trans Health Survey

[publication](#), [health and depathologisation](#)



Overdiagnosed but Underserved. Trans Healthcare in Georgia, Poland, Serbia, Spain, and Sweden: Trans Health Survey

“As a non-binary trans person [...] I could not receive treatment in a GIU (Gender Identity Unit) because I felt forced to lie and pretend to be a binary trans man, and this in my case would be unfeasible because what I’m doing is a low hormone treatment dose to reach only a certain level of changes and when changes have taken place I will lower the dose. Conventional professionals would most likely not respect this type of process and pressure me to accept a binary transition pack or to remain without treatment.”

Non-binary person, age 34, Spain

About the Trans Health Survey

The Trans Health Survey is the result of the work of Transgender Europe (TGEU) and its partner organisations [Women’s Initiative Supportive Group](#) (WISG), [Trans-Fuzja](#), [Daniela Fundación](#), [Gayten LGBT](#), and the [Riksförbundet för homosexuellas, bisexuellas, transpersoners och queeras rättigheter](#) (RFSL).

Together, our goal was to provide a deeper understanding of the healthcare situation of trans people in Europe. To gain this understanding we conducted the survey in five countries; Georgia, Poland, Serbia, Spain, and Sweden.

The Surveys

“I’ve been going to doctors in (...) trying to get permission for sex change, but I have a feeling that they are not too interested to help me – they don’t provide me with adequate psychological support, actually they still misgender me, and every session comes down to them attempting to give me medication against

depression and anxiety, though I've been telling them that the cause of those problems is basically unavailability of the treatment I've been waiting for.”

Trans man, age 22, Serbia

This is the first research on trans healthcare in which both trans healthcare users and healthcare providers have been questioned about the provision of general healthcare to trans people in the country they live and work in.

After a period of data gathering in 2016 we had results from 885 healthcare users, and 888 healthcare providers.

The Results

“The healthcare from psychologists in the Gender Identity Treatment Unit was not only unhelpful, it was also humiliating and degrading. There is inadequate information about treatments and surgeries, and authoritarian, paternalistic and pathological attitudes abound.”

Trans woman, age 22, Spain

Download “Overdiagnosed but Underserved – Trans Healthcare in Georgia, Poland, Serbia, Spain, and Sweden: Trans Health Survey” to read the results of the Trans Health Survey.



[Download](#)

Authors

Adam Smiley, Aisa Burgwal, Carolina Orre, Edward Summanen, Isidro García Nieto, Jelena Vidi?, Joz Motmans, Julia Kata, Natia Gvianishvili, Vierge Hård, and Richard Köhler.

Reference

If you want to reference this work, please use the following citation:

Transgender Europe, Overdiagnosed but Underserved, 2017

On Social Media

Use the hashtags #transhealthcare #transhealth to reference the project on Twitter. If you would like to use some of these images; just right-click to save them.

OVERDIAGNOSED BUT UNDERSERVED
AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD NOW
tgeu.org/healthcare

“I had to make the transition to private doctors (including surgery) because at the GIU in Madrid, at the age of 18, I could not start hormonal treatment, and the surgeries take years because of the long waiting lists.”

TRANS MAN, 19

OVERDIAGNOSED BUT UNDERSERVED

AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD NOW
tgeu.org/healthcare

“They told me how my country worked, and that they did not give a shit if anything would happen to a transvestite like me. They told me that there were people who needed operations to cure diseases and not physical whims like mine...”

TRANS MAN, 26

OVERDIAGNOSED BUT UNDERSERVED

AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD NOW
tgeu.org/healthcare

"I could not receive treatment in a GIU (Gender Identity Unit) because I felt forced to lie and pretend to be a binary trans man. Conventional professionals would most likely pressure me to accept a binary transition pack or to remain without treatment."

NON-BINARY PERSON, 34

OVERDIAGNOSED BUT UNDERSERVED

AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD NOW
tgeu.org/healthcare

"The doctor I went to (GP) had no information on the subject, she treated me by my assigned gender and not by my preferred gender even after asking her repeatedly to do so. I also asked her for an appointment with an endocrinologist, and she refused."

TRANS WOMAN, 25

Copyright

You are free to share (copy, distribute and transmit the work) and to remix – that is to adapt – this work, as long as

you attribute the work in the manner specified by the authors (but not in any way that suggests that they endorse your or your use of the work) and do not use this work for commercial purposes. If you alter, transform, or build upon this work, you may distribute the resulting work only under the same or similar license to this one.