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**NETWORK** FOR  
**LGBT** HEALTH  
EQUITY

# Transgender Health: Data Requirements/Policy Implications August 7, 2012



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## **Network for LGBT Health Equity**

The Network for LGBT Health Equity is a community-driven network of advocates and professionals enhancing LGBT health by countering tobacco use, and enhancing diet and exercise. We are one of six CDC-funded tobacco disparity networks and a project of The Fenway Institute in Boston. We advance these issues primarily by linking people and information to advocate for policy change. We actively monitor national and state health policymakers and urge community action when there is an opportunity to enhance LGBT wellness.



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## GenIUSS Workgroup

Convened by the Williams Institute to address gender identity surveillance measures. Met June 2011 to explore a consensus on the best measures to recommend.

Forthcoming in Sept: consensus statement from group

What follows is sneak preview of the likely consensus statement recommendations.



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# Promising Measure #1: Definition

Some people describe themselves as transgender when they experience a different gender identity from their sex at birth. For example, a person born into a male body but who feels female or lives as a woman. Do you consider yourself to be transgender?

- No
- Yes, transgender male to female
- Yes, transgender female to male
- Yes, transgender do not identify as male or female



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## Promising Measure #2: Expression

A person's style, mannerisms, or dress may affect the way people think of them. On average, how do you think people would describe your style, mannerisms, or dress?

- Very feminine
- Mostly feminine
- Somewhat feminine
- Equally feminine and masculine
- Somewhat masculine
- Mostly masculine
- Very masculine



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## Promising Measure #3: Unified

Do you think of yourself as ... (please check all that apply)

- Straight
- Gay or lesbian
- Bisexual
- Transgender or transexual

If YES to Transgender, then ask this probe:

- Transgender male to female or
- Transgender female to male?



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## Promising Measure #4: 2 step

What sex were you born?

- Male
- Female

What is your gender identity? (check all that apply)

- Man
- Woman
- Transgender male to female
- Transgender female to male
- Transgender, do not identify as male or female



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## Sample size?

- Sample size could be the primary consideration in measure choice.
- Not exactly known how many trans people will respond to the different question setups.
- Best estimate from available data? 0.5%
- Is that too small yield for separate measure?
- Possible questions that yield larger sample sizes, or allow bundling with similar measures? 2. Expression 3. Unified.



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# Community engagement concern?

What limits community engagement? Two words: United ENDA

- 2007 largest LGBT advocacy group, HRC, supported an LGB (not T) inclusive employment nondiscrimination bill on the Hill.
- This event coalesced growing LGBT support for trans inclusion, many other community groups formed a single coalition, United ENDA, opposing any bill without T inclusion.
- This marked a watershed point for LGB not T policy. Community groups now risk widespread alienation by supporting LGBT not T policies.



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## Policy changes

- Many policy documents all now encourage LGBT data collection, for example: IOM report, HP2020, HHS Tobacco Action Plan, and National Prevention Strategy.
- 2011 Sebelius commitment to collect LGBT data. Major LGBT news coverage across country.



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## The blog

[www.lgbthealthequity.wordpress.com](http://www.lgbthealthequity.wordpress.com)

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