Collecting Patient Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data at the University of California, Davis
Terms

• Sexual Orientation
  – An individual’s self-identified state of emotional, romantic, sexual or affectional attraction
    • Examples: straight, queer, bisexual, homosexual, heterosexual, asexual, gay

• Gender Identity
  – An individual’s deeply felt psychological identification, which may or may not correspond to the person’s body or designated/assigned birth sex.
    • Examples: female, male, transgender, no gender, another gender

• Transgender Individual
  – An individual with a gender identity, expression and/or behavior that is not traditionally associated with birth sex.
Selected LGBT Health Disparities

- Lesbian and bisexual women are more likely than straight women to be overweight/obese.

- Bisexuals have higher rates of smoking and mental health disease compared to gay/lesbian and straight peers.

- Transgender patients may be at greater cardiovascular disease risk due to exogenous hormones.

- All sexual minorities have higher reported rates of being a victim of sexual assault than non-sexual minorities.

- Gay and lesbian are more likely than heterosexuals to be excluded from clinical trials.

- Transgender youth are more likely to use street (rather than MD-prescribed) hormones, share needles for injection, have been arrested/incarcerated, etc.

Most primary care providers do NOT ask about sexual orientation and gender Identity.

Healthy People 2010: A Beginning

In 2000, Healthy People 201 included LGB people as a population with health disparities.

Only two federal data sets included sexual orientation data

- National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey
- National Household Survey on Drug Abuse

These data sets yielded important evidence regarding substance abuse and mental health disease in LGB people

Recent Developments

1. Institute of Medicine publishes report on LGBT health and recommendations on data collection and research.

2. HHS Secretary Sebelius announces actions to improve LGBT health.

3. Healthy People 2020 includes improving lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender health as a specific goal.

4. National study reports limited and superficial LGBT health education in medical school.
The relative lack of population-based data presents the greatest challenge to describing the health status and health related needs of the LGBT people.”

- The Health of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People: Building a Foundation for Better Understanding

**Recommendation 3:** Data on sexual orientation and gender identity should be collected in electronic health records.

http://nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13128
Department of Health and Human Services

“Our goal is for all Americans to live healthier, more prosperous, and more productive lives.”

– Secretary Kathleen Sebelius

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Recommended Actions to Improve the Health and Well-Being of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Communities

• Including SOGI questions on the 2013 National Interview Survey (Affordable Care Act §4302 –Minority Data Collection Standards

• Recognizing LGBT populations as underserved communities in grant review as well as issuing population-specific funding opportunities

• Developing new cultural competency goals for health profession training programs to include LGBT health.

http://www.hhs.gov/secretary/about/lgbthealth.html
Efforts to improve LGBT health include:

- Curbing human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) with interventions that work.8
- Implementing antibullying policies in schools.9
- Providing supportive social services to reduce suicide and homelessness risk among youth.9
- Appropriately inquiring about and being supportive of a patient’s sexual orientation to enhance the patient-provider interaction and regular use of care.10
- Providing medical students with access to LGBT patients to increase provision of culturally competent care.11

Collecting SOGI data at BWH enables providers……
• to provide excellent, competent patient care.
• to study LGBT populations.
• to provide UC Medical School students with access to LGBT patients.

LGBT Medical Education

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender-Related Content in Undergraduate Medical Education

More than 75% of Deans of Medical Education report their Institutions’ LGBT health-related curricula is “fair,” “poor,” or “very poor.”


The 6 least-taught LGBT health topics relate to primary care and transgender individuals.
UCD Mission, Vision and Values & SOGI Data

Collecting SOGI data fulfills UCD’s Mission, Vision and Values

Mission
University of California, Davis School of Medicine is dedicated to:

• Serving the needs of our local and global community.
• Providing the highest quality health care to patients and their families,
• Expanding the boundaries of medicine through research, education the next generation of health care professionals.

Vision

• University of California, Davis School of Medicine aspires to transform the future of healthcare, through science, education and compassionate care, locally and globally.

Values

• Quality Patient Care: Delivering quality patient care is the center of everything we do.
• Teaching Excellence: We seek to uphold the highest standard in training health care professionals.
• Research Leadership: We continuously seek new ways to demonstrate our leadership role in research.
• Customer Focus: Our focus is to serve our customers.
• Respect for the Individual: We recognize and value the contributions of every individual.
• Teamwork: We work toward a unified approach to developing health care solutions/
• Embracing Change: Embracing change will help us to be successful.
• Operational Efficiency: We strive for efficient and effective delivery of services
New Fenway Institute Policy Briefs

Contact Mitchell Lunn at mrlunn@partners.org for a copy
Summary

- The Institute of Medicine report to the National Institutes of Health recommends collecting sexual orientation and gender identity data in the electronic medical record.

- Sexual orientation and gender identity data enables population-based health studies.

- LGBT health is a national priority of the US Department of Health and Human Services

- Current LGBT health-related medical education is insufficient

- Collection sexual orientation and gender identity data fulfills UCD‘s mission, vision and values in patient care, research, education and innovation domains.
QUESTIONS?

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