

Journal Club Feature Article

Journal Club will meet Thursday, February 17, from 12:10-1:00 p.m. via Zoom. To sign up, email: trans.edu@phsa.ca

Talking back: Trans youth and resilience in action*

Travers, A., Marchbank, J., Boulay, N., Jordan, S., & Reed, K. (2022). Talking back: Trans youth and resilience in action. *Journal of LGBT Youth*, 19(1), 1-30. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19361653.2020.1758275>

Abstract: “In 2015 the Gender Vectors research team received a major research grant to conduct research with and about transgender youth in the Greater Vancouver Area. A unique aspect of this research project involved combining social action research with the development of a prototype of a video game as a knowledge translation tool to depict the life experiences of trans youth. We draw on transformative gender justice theory to document and address the diminished life chances of and the need to promote resilience among trans youth in the region and more broadly, across Canada and the United States. This article provides an overview of the research project and concludes by identifying key insights relating to resiliency that resulted from 15 narrative interviews with transgender youth, focus group meetings with the Project’s Youth Advisory Council, and dialog from an intergenerational workshop for transgender youth and adult care/service providers and allies. These themes informed the creation of the prototype.” (p. 1)

*If you are unable to access this article to participate in Journal Club, please contact: trans.edu@phsa.ca

New Research

Social support and unmet needs among older trans and gender non-conforming people during the COVID-19 ‘lockdown’ in the UK

Toze, M., Westwood, S., & Hafford-Letchfield, T. (2021). Social support and unmet needs among older trans and gender non-conforming people during the COVID-19 ‘lockdown’ in the UK. *International Journal of Transgender Health*, online ahead of print. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/26895269.2021.1977210>

Key findings: “The majority of TGNC respondents described diverse social networks, often centered around friends and non-kin social networks, although partners and adult children were also significant for some. In most cases, those with existing strong networks continued to maintain social connections during lockdown, albeit with some regrets about loss of activities and face-to-face connection. However, a minority of respondents had experienced greater challenges prior to lockdown, and may have been at increased vulnerability during the pandemic, for example indicating that they had no one to call on for practical support in an emergency. When asked about unmet needs and challenges, social isolation was repeatedly raised as the most frequent concern. Several respondents also mentioned issues specifically affecting TGNC communities, including access to gender affirming care and a perceived rise in social intolerance.”

Universal gender screening: A simple strategy to enhance primary care for transgender and gender diverse people

Townsend, M., & Clark, B. A. (2022). Universal gender screening: a simple strategy to enhance primary care for transgender and gender diverse people. *Family Practice*, [online ahead of print].

<https://academic.oup.com/fampra/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/fampra/cmab176/6515035>

Highlights: “Inclusion of universal gender screening as a routine aspect of primary care is necessary to reduce health inequities experienced by transgender, nonbinary, Two-Spirit, and gender diverse (trans) populations. The standard medical history, as taught in professional programmes, does not include questions related to gender. While other social determinants of health—such as employment, education, and housing—are included, the failure to screen all patients for gender-related needs is a missed opportunity for many to gain access to timely, gender-affirming care.”

Subcutaneous Testosterone Is Effective and Safe as Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy in Transmasculine and Gender-Diverse Adolescents and Young Adults: A Single Center's 8-Year Experience

Laurenzano, S. E., Newfield, R. S., Lee, E., & Marinkovic, M. (2021). Subcutaneous Testosterone Is Effective and Safe as Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy in Transmasculine and Gender-Diverse Adolescents and Young Adults: A Single Center's 8-Year Experience. *Transgender Health*, 6(6), 343-352.

<https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/10.1089/trgh.2020.0103>

Key findings: Subcutaneous testosterone “is well tolerated and effective in reaching recommended T levels and stopping menses in TM/GD youth. Occurrence of serious adverse effects is low and inability to tolerate injections is very uncommon. SC-T is a safe and effective alternative to intramuscular testosterone in initiation and maintenance of [gender-affirming hormone therapy] in [transmasculine and gender-diverse] youth.” (p. 343)

Ridding Canadian Medicine of Conversion Therapy

Salway, T., & Ashley, F. (2022). Ridding Canadian medicine of conversion therapy. *CMAJ*, 194(1) E17-E18.

<https://www.cmaj.ca/content/194/1/E17>

Key findings: “Conversion therapy continues to occur in both regulated and unregulated settings in Canada, prompting federal, provincial and territorial, and municipal governments to have debated and enacted dozens of legislative bans over the past 6 years...Canada’s medical regulators should act to augment any federal legislation, by making it clear that they will take prompt disciplinary action against members who cause harm through engaging in or supporting conversion therapy interventions.” (p. E17)

New Book

Working with Autistic Transgender and Non-Binary People

Kouti, M., ed. (2021). *Working with Autistic Transgender and Non-Binary People*. Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

<https://us.jkp.com/products/working-with-autistic-transgender-and-nonbinary-people>

Description: “The collection is structured in three sections; the first provides interdisciplinary and intersectional approaches on autism and gender as well as the experiences of transgender and non-binary autistic people; the second features professionals discussing their work, the challenges they face and the solutions they find helpful; and the final section presents thoughts and perspectives from trans and non-binary autistic people on various aspects of their experiences, focusing on information that professionals will need to consider and discuss with the people they support.”
