



**Department of Public Health  
Transgender Health Services**

50 Lech Walesa Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Telephone: (415) 355-7498  
FAX: (415) 355-7407

[transgenderhealthservices@sfdph.org](mailto:transgenderhealthservices@sfdph.org)  
[www.sfdph.org/transgenderhealthservices](http://www.sfdph.org/transgenderhealthservices)

**EDWIN M. LEE**  
MAYOR

**Criteria for Transgender Surgeries**

**For All Surgeries:**

- Capacity to make a fully informed decision and capacity to consent for treatment
- Age 18 and over
- Engagement with a primary care provider
  - At least quarterly visits with the same primary care provider or clinic within SFDPH affiliated clinics over past 1 year
- Participation in appropriate education for proposed procedure (education documentation checklists are available as a link on the SFDPH transgender health web page and from transgender health services eReferral)
- Medical Evaluation
  - Patient does not have medical conditions that would interfere with expected outcomes of proposed surgery. Any medical condition must be well controlled.
- Psychosocial Evaluation
  - Patient's psychiatric and social situation will not interfere with expected outcomes of proposed surgery. Any mental health condition must be well controlled.
- Mental health assessment: 2 comprehensive assessments must be done by qualified mental health professionals. Guidelines for completion of these assessments have been developed by SFDPH and are based on and consistent with the most recent version of World Professional Association for Transgender Health Standards of Care (WPATH SOC).
  - Qualified mental health professionals are licensed mental health providers with appropriate masters, doctorate, or MD degrees who have gender sensitivity and knowledge of transgender people in public health settings.
  - Components of the comprehensive assessment are available in the *SFDPH Mental Health Assessments for Sexual Reassignment Surgery or Gender Confirmation Surgery* which is available as a link on the SFDPH transgender health web page and from transgender health services eReferral
- Letters
  - 1 letter from the medical primary care provider documenting that medical conditions are well controlled. A completed medical evaluation form (see above) will meet this requirement
  - 2 letters are required documenting that the comprehensive mental health assessment has been completed. A checklist for the components of the assessment that are required in the letter is available as a link on the SFDPH transgender health web page and from transgender health services eReferral

**For Genital surgeries**

- 12 continuous months of hormone therapy as appropriate to the patient's gender goals (unless the patient has a medical contraindication or is otherwise unable or unwilling to take hormones).

**For Vaginoplasty, metoidioplasty, and phalloplasty surgery:**

- 12 continuous months of living in a gender role that is congruent with their gender identity
- Participation in transgender health services education and preparation program

**Other criteria:** Various health plans may have additional criteria. The transgender SRS services will attempt to clarify criteria and availability of service for each patient referred.