Whereas, There were 3200 gender confirmation surgeries performed in 2016 in the United States, which represents a 20% increase from the previous year; and

Whereas, Gender confirmation surgeries include a variety of surgical procedures such as transfeminine and transmasculine genital reconstruction, breast surgery, and facial reconstruction; and

Whereas, While numerous safe and reliable surgical options exist for patients undergoing gender confirmation surgery, there is currently no standard for patient selection and education about the various techniques available; and

Whereas, Patient-reported outcomes are emerging as a standard in the evaluation of and research into surgical quality and outcomes; and

Whereas, A questionnaire that assesses a patient’s perspective on their physical, sexual, and social well-being following breast reconstructive surgery has been validated for use in assessing procedure outcomes and quality; and

Whereas, Current research in gender confirmation surgery outcomes utilizes patient questionnaires related to sexual function and bowel and urinary issues that were not originally designed for the transgender population; and

Whereas, Information gathered from patient-reported outcomes could improve techniques used by surgeons, provide better training, and help new patients better understand how these operations impact overall well-being and quality of life; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support initiatives and research to establish standardized protocols for patient selection, surgical management, and preoperative and postoperative care for transgender patients undergoing gender confirmation surgeries (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA support development and implementation of standardized tools, such as questionnaires to evaluate outcomes of gender confirmation surgeries. (New HOD Policy)

Fiscal Note: not yet determined

Received: 04/26/18

RELEVANT AMA POLICY:

Removing Financial Barriers to Care for Transgender Patients H-185.950
Our AMA supports public and private health insurance coverage for treatment of gender dysphoria as recommended by the patient's physician.
Citation: Res. 122; A-08; Modified: Res. 05, A-16;

See also:
H-160.991 Health Care Needs of Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Populations
H-460.907 Encouraging Research Into the Impact of Long-Term Administration of Hormone Replacement Therapy in Transgender Patients
D-345.994 Increasing Detection of Mental Illness and Encouraging Education