



Comprehensive Gender Care

M Health Fairview Clinics and Surgery Center - Minneapolis

909 Fulton St. SE

Minneapolis, MN 55455

Appointments: 612-676-4227

z.umn.edu/gender

A collaboration among the University of Minnesota, University of Minnesota Physicians, and Fairview Health Services

Dear LGBTQ community,

On Friday, June 12, 2020, the Department of Health and Human Services under the Trump Administration announced [regulations](#) on the interpretation of “sex” to remove LGBTQ protections in the area of healthcare. The timing of this announcement coincides with historic upheaval in our society around racial injustice, and resounding agreement across the U.S. for the need to heal, repair, and atone for historic systemic oppressions, including against LGBTQ communities.

We send this message in solidarity with our trans community and in support of our transgender patients. M Health Fairview is committed to building a system where ALL members of our community are treated with dignity and respect, and ALL patients receive the highest levels and quality of care. All people deserve access to care.

Understandably, this announcement has caused many of our transgender patients to wonder if and how they will obtain routine medical care, which includes gender affirming care like hormone treatment and/or surgery.

Our Comprehensive Gender Care staff sought clarification* on what this administrative ruling entails and how it interacts with existing and evolving regulation, here is what we know as of this date:

1. All of your gender-related care will continue as expected and affirmed by our healthcare system. Please reach out to your providers or our transgender care coordinator to access care.
2. The announcement Friday, June 12, 2020 is an administrative regulation, not legislation or a court ruling. Advocates have expressed their intent to challenge the regulations in court.
3. On June 15, 2020, the Supreme Court clearly ruled in favor of LGBTQ employment rights under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, interpreting sex to include gender identity and sexual orientation. This will likely influence the interpretation of sex within the ACA under section 1557.
4. Minnesota already has a robust Human Rights Act that protects LGBTQ people from discrimination in healthcare, housing, employment and other basic human rights.

Although these regulations, which are deeply discouraging, were publicized Friday, the Supreme Court ruling of Monday is encouraging for future protections. In any case, M Health Fairview will not allow prejudicial discriminatory regulation to impact how we serve our patients.



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M Health Fairview is committed to maintaining our exceptional level of care for our transgender and gender diverse patients. You are not alone. [M Health Fairview](#) and [the University of Minnesota Medical School](#) stands with you, and we will continue to fight for equity, accessibility and dignity in your healthcare.

In solidarity,

Comprehensive Gender Care staff and providers

*Thanks to Phil Duran, legal director at JustUS Health for consulting with our staff and patients.

<https://transgenderlegal.org/stay-informed/New-Federal-Regulations-Encourage-Health-Care-Discrimination-Against-Transgender-People/>, <https://transequality.org/press/releases/trump-rules-encourage-health-care-providers-to-deny-care-to-transgender-people>,