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Introduction

- Anesthesiologists routinely assess preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative status of patients undergoing surgery.
- When it comes to gender affirming surgery, the complexity of perioperative considerations increases with the biopsychosocial nuances that come with transgender patient care.
- Based on current day literature, what role do anesthesiologists play on the multidisciplinary care team in delivering holistic, sensitive care of transgender patients throughout the gender affirming surgery process, and how well equipped are they to do so?

Objectives

- Review documented anesthetic concerns in the current literature
- Highlight any new guidelines on team dynamics used by institutions with multidisciplinary perioperative care teams
- Identify points of further education and research to improve transgender patient care standards and sensitivity

Methods

- Review was conducted via PubMed literature search: ((transgender) AND (perioperative care)) AND (anesthesia), filtered by 2018-2024 (24 results). 4 suggested articles from Dr. Reece-Nguyen were added for a total of 28 articles.
- 8 Excluded: Specific single case study (1), Retrospective studies for specific pathology following gender affirming surgeries (3), Study on specific anesthetic procedure (1), Study focusing on population non-specific to LGBTQ+

Review and Discussion

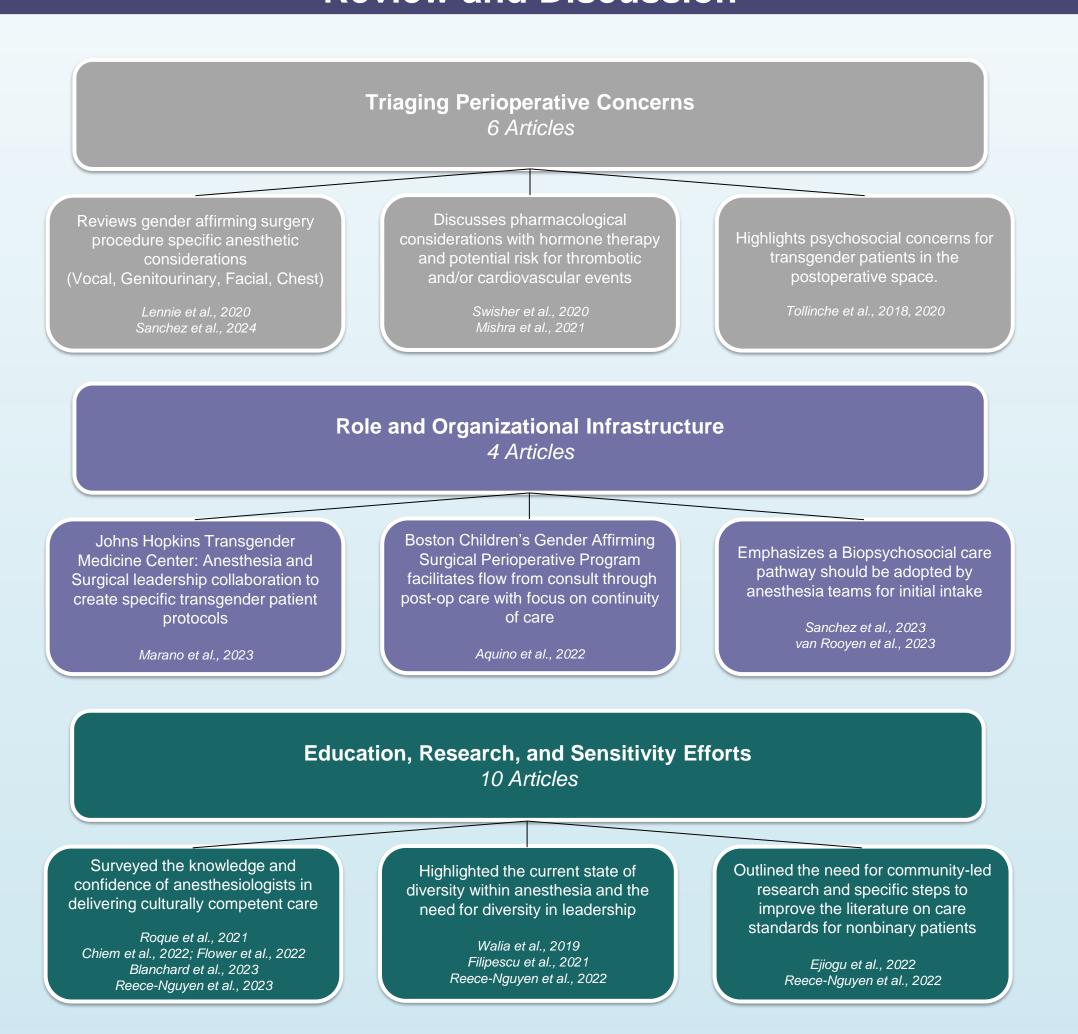


Figure 1. Graphic organizing reviewed literature on perioperative care for transgender patients into 3 identified objectives...



Figure 2. Flier from the Society of Pediatric Anesthesia for a mentoring program recruiting LGBTQIA+ physician mentors and medical student mentees.



Figure 3. The first research symposium of the Perioperative Anesthesiology Registry for Transgender Adults and Youth (PARTAY) formed in June 2023. Photo credit to Dr. Remigio Roque.

Conclusions

- Pediatric anesthesia confidence in managing adolescents is low as of 2021
- Standard of care literature for transgender and nonbinary patients is scarce
- Establishing diverse leadership within anesthesia could also help with developing confidence
- Algorithms and structured communication is becoming a more commonly used approach in triaging concerns

Future Directions

- Conducting more research projects that keeps logged information of procedures, such as the PARTAY registry for study of anesthetic concerns (DVT risks, PONV risk calculator, airway management)
- Forming pathways and/or specialty care teams to ensure thoroughness in consultation, operation, and continuity of care
- Consider training specific care teams for LGBTQ+ populations to enhance care and increase visibility of LGBTQ+ providers in leadership and mentorship efforts

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