

### Slide 2








### Slide 5

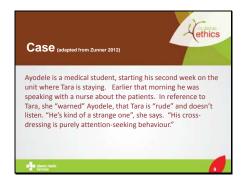


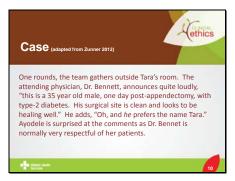





### Slide 8



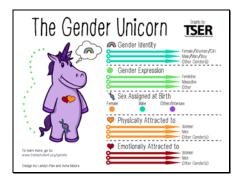




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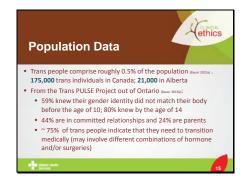






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### Ethical Spheres Public Health Ethics Population Health Access Organizational Ethics Funding allocation Policies/Guidelines Response to gender in forms/procedures Structure of space (bathrooms, showers, etc.) Clinical Ethics Respect for individuals Duty to provide beneficial care

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# What the evidence shows.. Trans people continue to experience embarrassment and humiliation in our health system Lack of knowledge about transgender people can lead to responses that are (sometimes unintentionally) disrespectful and stigmatizing There are serious and harmful consequences of failing to live up to our obligations


### About recognizing the legitimate agency in others Responding to the patient's authority to determine their own gender identify and gender expression Respect the patient's journey and needs. Never dismiss the patient as being "difficult" or "attention seeking" Respect the medical needs you are presented with. Distinguish between circumstances where patient's sex/gender is relevant and when it is not

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### **Ethics – Minimizing Harm**



- About our duties to identify and minimize exposure to physical and psychosocial harms for our patients
   Expands to obligations to understand what constitutes harm
- from the patient's perspective; we do not get to decide whether patients are being harmed, they do.

  Do not dismiss things you think are "small" or "no big deal" that the patient sees as significant. Recognize the cumulative
- effect of such experiences for the patient.

  Respond to the connection between stigma and marginalization, and mental health issues, including depression and suicidality
- Respond to the physical person in front of you.



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### **Ethics – Privacy and Confidentiality**



- Closely related to Respect for Persons, this is about recognizing the individual role in determining whether and how to share personal information
- Only seek the information you need to know of your patients. Explain why more information may be required.
- Respond to the sensitivity of patient information. It is crucial not to expose or "out" patients.



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### Ethics – Virtue of Humility • About recognizing our own inherently limited perspectives • Reminds us not to: • assume that we know what is important to others and why. • assume we know others' choices (e.g. assuming all trans people have chosen surgical options). • Recognize if we are unfamiliar with the issues and recognize the importance of seeking out information on our own • It is not necessary or appropriate to ask trans patients to educate you on all trans issues • It is appropriate to ask how you can best provide care to them

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## Transgender people have faced significant marginalization and stigma, perpetuated by our health system Trans people are people. Trans ethics are people ethics While are ethical obligations are the same to all, we have further obligation to understand the meaning and impacts of these values for trans patients

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### References • AHS Human Resources – Transgender Guidelines, 2016 • Bauer GR, Zong X, Scheim AI, Hammond R, Thind A (2015a) Factors Impacting Transgender Patients' Discomfort with Their Family Physicians: A Respondent-Driven Sampling Survey. PLoS ONE 10(12): e0145046. doi:10.1371/ journal.pone.0145046 • Bauer GR, Scheim AI for the Trans PULSE Project Team. Transgender People in Ontario, Canada: Statistics to Inform Human Rights Policy. London, ON. 1 June 2015b • Bauer GR, Travels R, Scanlon K, Coleman TA. High heterogeneity of HIV-related sexual risk among transgender people in Ontario, Canada: a province-wide respondentdriven sampling survey. BMC Public Health 2012; 12: 292