



PERIOPERATIVE NURSING PRACTICES FOR TRANSGENDER PATIENTS: A SCOPING REVIEW



Andre Aparecido da Silva Teles*; Marcelo Borges Scarpellini; Janderson Cleiton Aguiar; Antonio Jorge Silva Correa Júnior; Helena Megumi Sonobe

BACKGROUND

- As a professor in the undergraduate nursing program at a public university in Brazil → I face various challenges in my professional practice;
- One important issue → the delivery of perioperative care for transgender patients, considering their specific healthcare needs;
- Transgender patients → face significant barriers and disparities in healthcare, particularly in the perioperative setting → prejudice and stereotypes may still influence care provided by health professionals;
- To address this issue → discussions with students led to the idea of developing educational material focused on perioperative care for transgender patients;
- To underpin this material with scientific evidence → we conducted a scoping review;
- Nursing education must address these gaps to ensure safe, respectful, and inclusive perioperative care.
- **OBJECTIVE:** To summarize national and international scientific evidence on perioperative care practices for transgender patients, guiding clinical practice and professional education.

METHODS

- A scoping review was conducted → following the Joanna Briggs Institute® (JBI) methodology;
- The PCC framework guided the research question → Participants: transgender patients; Concept: perioperative care; Context: surgical setting;
- Comprehensive searches were performed → PubMed, CINAHL, SCOPUS, Web of Science, and LILACS → using controlled descriptors and keywords;
- Of 607 initial records, 32 full-text articles were reviewed, and 20 were included in the final synthesis.

RESULTS

- Findings emphasize → the importance of creating a safe and welcoming environment for transgender patients, such as displaying inclusive symbols and ensuring appropriate restroom access;
- Admission and documentation → should respect patients affirmed names, pronouns, and gender identities;

CONCLUSION

- Preoperative assessments → must consider hormone therapy interactions, potential airway changes from gender-affirming surgeries, and pregnancy testing for patients assigned female at birth;
- Intraoperative teams → should confirm name and pronoun preferences and address anatomical variations;
- Postoperative care → must maintain patient privacy and continue the use of inclusive communication;
- Increasing gender diversity among surgical team members and leadership → may enhance cultural sensitivity and patient-centered care;
- Staff training at all levels is essential → to reduce bias, promote cultural competence, and ensure consistent, respectful interactions.
- Periop, Care for transgender patients → should be evidence-based, patient-centered, and tailored to respect each individual's preferences and needs;

- Implementing these practices → can enhance patient safety, satisfaction, and overall surgical outcomes;
- Interprofessional education and inclusion of gender diversity content in nursing curricula → critical to breaking down barriers and advancing equitable care;
- These findings → support perioperative nurses in developing inclusive protocols, fostering staff training, and creating welcoming surgical environments, ultimately improving patient safety, satisfaction, and equitable outcomes for transgender patients;
- Furthermore, in our context, these findings will support the development of educational materials on this care for students and professionals.

KEYWORDS

Transgender Patients; Perioperative Nursing; Patient Safety; Inclusive Care; Interprofessional Education.

*Credentials and References:

