Cervical Cancer Screening for Sexual and Gender Minority
May 16, 2018 | 12pm ET

Moderator: Earl Nupsius Benjamin, DrHSc, Community Advisory Council Member

Presenters:
Julia Seay, PhD, Research Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Miami
Atticus Ranck, MA, Health Programs and Supportive Services Manager, Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center
CenterLink

✓ Nonprofit founded in 1994

✓ Helps develop strong, sustainable LGBT community centers with a national network of 190+ organizations

✓ Builds a thriving network of centers for healthy, vibrant communities

✓ Recognized by the White House as a “Champion of Change”

www.LGBTCenters.org  •  954-765-6024  •  information@LGBTCenters.org
LGBT HealthLink

- One of eight CDC-funded cancer and tobacco disparity networks
- Advance LGBT wellness by addressing LGBT tobacco and cancer health disparities
- Link people with information and promote adoption of best practices
- We promote tobacco prevention & cessation, decreased second-hand smoke exposure, cancer prevention and screening and improved quality of life for those with cancer

Become a member at www.MyLGBTHealthLink.org
LGBT HealthLink Provides:

- Technical Assistance
- Trainings/Webinars/Presentations
- Needs Assessment Tool
- Sample non-discrimination policies
- Other resources such as educational materials
- Tobacco Census

- Cancer Assessment of Community Level of Readiness
- Cross-sectoral connections between health systems, providers, community centers, and departments of health
- Linkages for information and best and promising practices
Today’s Presenters

Earl Nupsius Benjamin  Julia Seay  Atticus Ranck
Addressing Cervical Cancer Disparities among Sexual and Gender Minority Patients

Julia Seay, PhD and Atticus Ranck, MA
Cervical cancer disparities
- Cervical cancer disparities among lesbian and bisexual women
- Cervical cancer disparities among transmasculine people

Cervical cancer screening considerations
- General
- LBQ women
- Transmasculine people

Cervical cancer disparities research
- Cancer screening needs and preferences
- HPV self-sampling

Resources
Cervical Cancer Disparities among Lesbian and Bisexual Women

- Lesbian and Bisexual Women
  - Less likely to receive up-to-date cervical cancer screening than their heterosexual counterparts
  - Greater smoking and alcohol use (especially pronounced for bisexual women)

- Lesbian Women ONLY
  - Lower uptake of HPV vaccine

- Bisexual Women ONLY
  - Higher prevalence of HPV infection
Cervical Cancer Disparities among Transgender Men and Transmasculine People

- Less likely to receive up-to-date screening than cisgender women
- More likely to have insufficient Pap result (especially if on testosterone)
- Higher smoking and alcohol use
- No information on HPV vaccination uptake or HPV prevalence yet
Barriers to screening

- Discomfort speaking with healthcare provider regarding sexual orientation and/or gender identity
- Discrimination and lack of LGBT-competence among healthcare providers and medical staff
- Perception of OB/GYN as cishet women’s spaces
- Access-related barriers (higher unemployment and lower access to health insurance)
- Intersectional barriers (facing discrimination stemming from multiple aspects of one’s identity)
General Comfort Considerations for Sexual and Gender Minority Patients

- SOGI
  - Intake forms
  - Non-discrimination policy
  - Affirming signs
  - Gender neutral clinic space
  - Eliciting SOGI conversations

- Making assumptions
  - Gender of sexual partners
  - Sexual behavior
  - Need for birth control
  - Reproductive health options
Comfort Considerations for Lesbian and Bisexual Women

- Major complaint: “What are you doing for birth control?”
- Gender presentation
- Conversations around sexual behavior
Comfort Considerations with Transgender Men and Transmasculine People

- Pronouns
- Gender-affirming language and gender-neutral medical terminology
- Gender dysphoria
- Impact of testosterone
- Conversations around sexual orientation and sexual behavior
Research to Address Cervical Cancer Disparities among Sexual and Gender Minority Patients

- Disparities research
  - Screening access and frequency
  - Risk factors for cervical cancer
  - Barriers to screening
- Screening needs and preferences
- HPV self-sampling
Cervical Cancer Screening Needs and Preferences

- 2 Rapid Assessment Surveys (LBQ Women and Transgender Men)
  - Ages 21-65
  - Measures
    - Sociodemographic characteristics
    - Previous experiences with healthcare in general
    - Previous experiences with cervical cancer screening
    - Beliefs and attitudes toward cervical cancer screening
    - Interest in HPV self-sampling
  - < 10 minutes to complete
  - Anonymous
  - Mostly online (via email and social media)
Most would prefer to screen at home rather than in a clinic

 Majority of transgender men preferred HPV self-sampling as a screening option

 1/3 of LBQ women preferred self-sampling, 1/3 preferred Pap screening, and 1/3 preferred either

 Among both groups, history of discrimination while seeking preventive care was significantly associated with HPV self-sampling preference
HPV Self-Sampling

- Can be done in private, using a device that is similar in size to a tampon
- Tests for high-risk HPV, the primary cause of cervical cancer
- May be especially beneficial for transgender men, given increased likelihood of insufficient sample upon cytology
HPV Self-sampling Pilots

- Just completed pilot with LBQ women and just starting pilot with transgender men and transmasculine people
- Preliminary feasibility and acceptability among LBQ women
- Unique considerations for transgender men and transmasculine people
- Grants submitted to NIH and ACS for larger self-sampling projects
Best Practices for Increasing Pap Screening in LBQ Women and Transmasculine Communities

- Educating queer communities about the necessity of Pap screening and HPV vaccinations
- Educating ob/gyn doctors and staff about trans masculine and LBQ women’s bodies and needs
- Self-sampling
- Making ob/gyn spaces comfortable for everyone - trans and/or pride flag in the office, not using only traditionally feminine decorations and colors, inclusive language
- Using appropriate name and pronouns in person and on the forms
Resources

- If you got it, Pap it
  [http://www.bradburysullivancenter.org/papit](http://www.bradburysullivancenter.org/papit)

- World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH):
  [www.wpath.org](http://www.wpath.org)

- National Center for LGBT Health Education (Fenway)
  [https://www.lgbthealtheducation.org/](https://www.lgbthealtheducation.org/)
References


2) American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Health Care for Transgender Individuals. Available at: http://www.acog.org/Resources-And-Publications/Committee-Opinions/Committee-on-Health-Care-for-Underserved-Women/Health-Care-for-Transgender-Individuals


This interactive tool and additional resources are available from our MyLGBTHealthLink.org member site. Join today – it’s free!
JOIN THE MOVEMENT TO ACHIEVE LGBT HEALTH EQUITY!

www.mylgbthealthlink.org

HealthLink members have access to:

- Weekly LGBT Health News Roundup
- Scholarships to help support and promote leadership in LGBT health
- Members-only online networking groups
- Exclusive webinars and resources available for download
- Co-branding opportunities
Cervical Cancer Screening for Sexual and Gender Minority
May 16, 2018 | 12pm ET

Moderator: Earl Nupsius Benjamin, DrHSc, Community Advisory Council Member

Presenters:
Julia Seay, PhD, Research Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Miami
Atticus Ranck, MA, Health Programs and Supportive Services Manager, Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center
Tuesday, May 15, 2018
12pm ET: SOGI Data: Promotion and Data Inclusion at State and Local Government Agencies
2pm ET: Special Considerations - Cancer Concerns for and of Sexual Gender Minority
4pm ET: Social Service Navigation: Leveraging Your Referral Network into a Well-funded Case Management and Navigation Program

Wednesday, May 16, 2018
12pm ET: Cervical Cancer Screening for Sexual and Gender Minority
2pm ET: Funding Your Programs through Practice-based Research Partnerships
4pm ET: Best and Promising Practices for LGBTQ Inclusion and Cultural Competence at State and Local Health Departments

Thursday, May 17, 2018
12pm ET: Effective Programs for Reaching and Engaging Underserved and Hard to Reach Populations
2pm ET: Birth of the LGBT Tobacco Control Movement: A Movement to Save Health and Lives
4pm ET: Beyond the Quitline