



Health Disparities among Sexual and Gender Minorities Workshop

March 1 – 2, 2023

Zoom Virtual Meeting



National Institute
on Minority Health
and Health Disparities

Workshop Overview



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Disclaimer

This presentation was prepared by Dr. Rada Dagher in her personal capacity.

The opinions expressed in this presentation are the author's own and do not reflect the views of the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Health and Human Services, or the United States government.



Background

- ~11 million lesbian, gay, bisexual, & transgender (LGBT) in US
(*NASEM report 2020*)
- Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) populations include:
 - Lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, and/or intersex
 - Same-sex or -gender attractions or behaviors & those with a difference in sex development
 - Do not self-identify with one of the terms but whose sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or reproductive development is characterized by non-binary constructs of sexual orientation, gender, and/or sex
- SGM populations have increased risk for health disparities:
 - Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes, Cancer, Violence, HIV
 - Mental Health, Substance Use, & Behavioral Health
 - Sleep Health



March 8, 2022

Racial and Ethnic, Gender Disparities Seen in LGBT COVID-19 Vaccination Rates

Bridget M. Kuehn, MSJ

JAMA. 2022;327(10):910. doi:10.1001/jama.2022.2439



COVID-19 Resource Center

Compared with heterosexual adults, a greater proportion of gay and lesbian adults reported having received at least 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccine, according to a report on results from a nationally representative telephone **survey**. By race and ethnicity, however, vaccination rates were lowest among Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals, particularly women.

Health conditions that increase the risk of developing severe COVID-19 disproportionately affect LGBT adults in the US. The report's authors noted concern because many LGBT individuals lack health coverage, report experiencing discrimination by health care providers, or other barriers to care. To learn more about COVID-19 vaccination rates among LGBT individuals, the authors analyzed data from the National Immunization Survey-Adult COVID Module, a telephone survey of about 153 000 adults conducted from August 29 through October 30, 2021.

About 85% of gay and lesbian adults reported having received at least 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccine compared with approximately 76% of both heterosexual and bisexual adults. Vaccination rates did not differ between people who are transgender or nonbinary and those who are not. More gay, lesbian, and bisexual adults reported concern about COVID-19 and confidence in vaccine safety compared with heterosexual adults.

Recent NIH Contributions to SGM Research

- NIH have commissioned 2 National Academy of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) reports:
 - [*Understanding the Well-Being of LGBTQI+ Populations \(2020\)*](#)
 - [*Measuring Sex, Gender Identity, and Sexual Orientation \(2022\)*](#)

- Recent Funding Opportunities:
 - RFA: Multi-Level HIV Prevention Interventions for Individuals at the Highest Risk of HIV Infection [RFA-MD-23-008](#)
 - NOSI: Research on the Health of Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Populations [NOT-MD-22-012](#)
 - NOSI: Research on the Health of Bisexual and Bisexual+ People [NOT-OD-22-166](#)

- Recent NIMHD Concepts approved by Council:
 - ✓ [Addressing Health and Health Care Disparities in Sexual and Gender Minority Populations](#)



Key Research Gaps for SGM Populations

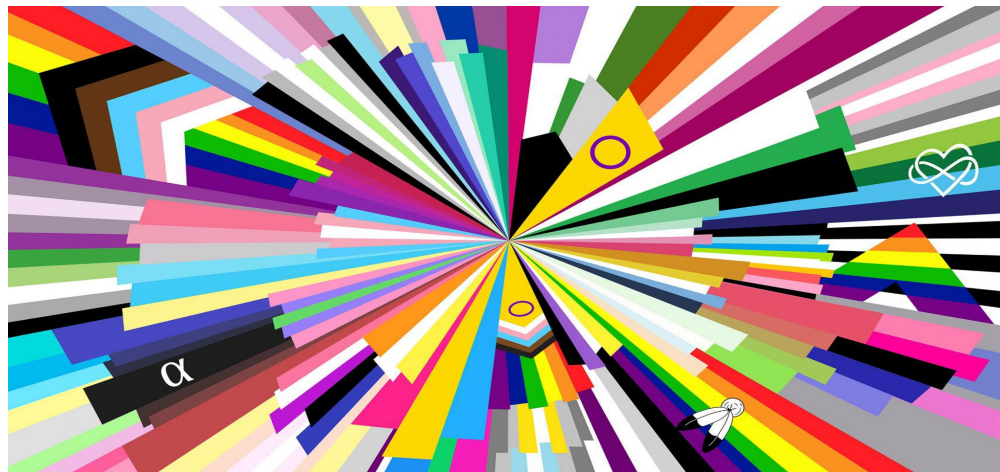
- Evidence-based intervention and longitudinal studies
- Studies on how structural stigma develops and evolves across the lifespan to impact health and health care disparities
- Interventions addressing intersectionality
- Interventions to improve access to and quality of care
- Studies examining Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and how differential access to opportunities and resources impacts disparities



Goal of Workshop: Advance Research on Health Disparities among Sexual and Gender Minorities

Workshop objectives are to identify research gaps and opportunities in:

- Data sources and measures that can be used to assess and address SGM health disparities
- Mechanisms and pathways that drive/cause SGM health disparities
- Interventions with the potential to mitigate/reduce SGM health disparities



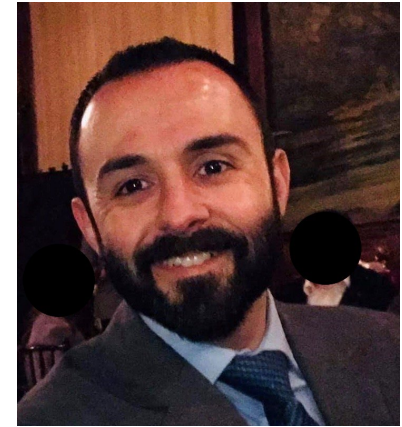
Workshop Planning Committee



Rada Dagher, NIMHD



Deborah Linares, NIMHD



Erik Rodriguez, NHLBI



Christopher Barnhart, SGMRO



Jennifer Alvidrez, ODP



Miya Whitaker, ORWH



Session Moderators

In addition to all the members of the planning committee,



Karen Parker, Ph.D.

Director

Sexual and Gender Minority Research Office (SGMRO)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)



Workshop Agenda

Day 1

- Overview, NIMHD Perspective, and State of the Science
- Leading Causes of Death and Disability
- Methodological Issues in SGM Research
- Social and Structural Drivers of SGM Health Disparities
- Wrap-Up Discussion

Day 2

- Intersection between SGM and Other Populations:
 - Patterns and Drivers of Health Disparities
 - How Stigma Affects Health Outcomes
- Gaps and Opportunities in Intervention Research (2 sessions)
- Breakout Sessions

Q&A and Discussions



*Every step we take on earth
Brings us to a new world*

*Cada paso que damos en la tierra
Nos lleva a un mundo nuevo*

Federico García Lorca

“Los Puentes Colgantes/Floating Bridges”



Opening Session

Welcome Remarks



Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D.

Director

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