

## World Medical Association

### Statement Title

Statement on Transgender People (2015)

### Statement Date

2015

### Statement Summary

The World Medical Association (WMA) is an international organization representing physicians. The organization was created to ensure the independence of physicians, and to work for the highest possible standards of ethical behavior and care by physicians, at all times. Membership consists of 111 National Medical Associations. The WMA recommends, among other things, the following:

1. The WMA emphasises that everyone has the right to determine one's own gender and recognises the diversity of possibilities in this respect. The WMA calls for physicians to uphold each individual's right to self-identification with regards to gender.
2. The WMA asserts that gender incongruence is not in itself a mental disorder; however it can lead to discomfort or distress, which is referred to as gender dysphoria (DSM-5).
3. The WMA affirms that, in general, any health-related procedure or treatment related to an individual's transgender status, e.g. surgical interventions, hormone therapy or psychotherapy, requires the freely given informed and explicit consent of the patient.
4. The WMA urges that every effort be made to make individualised, multi-professional, interdisciplinary and affordable transgender healthcare (including speech therapy, hormonal treatment, surgical interventions and mental healthcare) available to all people who experience gender incongruence in order to reduce or to prevent pronounced gender dysphoria. [...]

### Full Citation

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<https://www.wma.net/policies-post/wma-statement-on-transgender-people/>.