



September 26, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

As you may have observed, [many young people](#) now identify as transgender or nonbinary. Some are suffering from clinically diagnosed gender dysphoria, while others suddenly begin to believe they are transgender after learning about these identities [online](#). Most have [underlying and untreated issues](#), including autism, trauma, and ADHD.

Alarming, these young people are being treated with drugs, hormones, and surgeries despite the absence of rigorous long-term studies to prove safety or efficacy. The medical literature on the health effects of these interventions “[in the pediatric/adolescent population is completely lacking](#).”

We are writing to health care practitioners across the country to alert them to the following facts:

- Despite claims to the contrary, there are [no objective tests or biomarkers](#) to prove a person's gender identity.
- Gender identities are [based entirely on feelings](#) that are likely to change with time, brain maturity, and non-invasive therapy.
- Puberty-blocking drugs, such as Lupron, have been known to cause [long-lasting health problems, including bone loss and disease](#). Over 41,000 [adverse reports](#) have been filed with the FDA
- A [2018 study](#) of long-term risks of puberty blockers found that “the majority of subjects reported long-term side effects ... while almost one-third reported irreversible side effects that persisted for years after discontinuing treatment.”
- [Studies of the impact of cross-sex hormones on adults](#) have shown that males taking estrogen are at high risk for deadly blood clots. Females taking testosterone have an increased risk of hypertension, increased red blood cell counts, breast and ovarian cancer. Both males and females are at increased risk of myocardial infarction and death due to cardiovascular disease.
- If children are given cross-sex hormones after their puberty is blocked at Tanner Stage 2, [they will be sterilized](#).
- The only [long-term follow-up study](#) of adults who medically transitioned found substantially higher rates of overall mortality, suicide, suicide attempts, and psychiatric hospitalizations among adults who surgically transitioned. We simply don't know the future outcomes for children.

The Kelsey Coalition is a new and rapidly growing non-partisan grassroots organization concerned with the medical treatments, laws, and policies that are causing irreversible harm to gender non-conforming young people.

Yet children as young as eight years old are being given powerful puberty-blocking drugs, pre-adolescents are prescribed cross-sex hormones for lifetime usage, and “gender-confirming” surgeries (such as mastectomies, radical hysterectomies, vaginoplasties, and orchiectomies) are performed on teenagers. Meanwhile, many young adults are beginning to [express regret](#) for these irreversible medical interventions and are seeking legal remedies. We expect lawsuits will begin within the next five years.

Despite the paucity of sound research, many medical associations, including the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#), are promoting these medical interventions in children. This is alarming. We encourage you to consider expressing your concerns to your professional associations and colleagues.

We hope that these facts and attached documentation will assist you in helping trans-identifying and gender dysphoric young people find appropriate and non-invasive care. Please contact KelseyCoalition@gmail.com for further information.

On behalf of the Kelsey Coalition,

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Attachments:

- (1) [The Tavistock’s Experiment with Puberty Blockers](#)
- (2) [Gender Affirming Hormone in Children and Adolescents](#)
- (3) [Occurrence of Acute Cardiovascular Event in Transgender Individuals Receiving Hormone Therapy](#)
- (4) [American Academy of Pediatrics Policy and Trans-Kids: Fact-Checking](#)
- (5) [Parent Reports of Adolescents and Young Adults Perceived to Show Signs of a Rapid Onset of Gender Dysphoria](#)