Timing and Delivery of Fertility Preservation Information to Transgender Youth and Their Parents

Kit Quain  
*Thomas Jefferson University*

Moira A. Kyweluk, PhD, MPH

Afiya Sajwani

Siobhan Gruschow, MPH, MEd

Courtney Finlayson, MD

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: [https://jdc.jefferson.edu/si_hs_2022_phase1](https://jdc.jefferson.edu/si_hs_2022_phase1)

Part of the Pediatrics Commons

Let us know how access to this document benefits you

**Recommended Citation**

Quain, Kit; Kyweluk, PhD, MPH, Moira A.; Sajwani, Afiya; Gruschow, MPH, MEd, Siobhan; Finlayson, MD, Courtney; Gordon, PhD, MPH, Elisa J.; Johnson, MD, MPH, Emilie K.; Persky, MD, Rebecca; Dowshen, MD, MSHP, Nadia; and Chen, PhD, Diane, "Timing and Delivery of Fertility Preservation Information to Transgender Youth and Their Parents" (2020). *Phase 1*. Paper 4. [https://jdc.jefferson.edu/si_hs_2022_phase1/4](https://jdc.jefferson.edu/si_hs_2022_phase1/4)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Jefferson Digital Commons. The Jefferson Digital Commons is a service of Thomas Jefferson University's [Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)](https://ctl.jefferson.edu). The Commons is a showcase for Jefferson books and journals, peer-reviewed scholarly publications, unique historical collections from the University archives, and teaching tools. The Jefferson Digital Commons allows researchers and interested readers anywhere in the world to learn about and keep up to date with Jefferson scholarship. This article has been accepted for inclusion in Phase 1 by an authorized administrator of the Jefferson Digital Commons. For more information, please contact: JeffersonDigitalCommons@jefferson.edu.
Authors
Kit Quain; Moira A. Kyweluk, PhD, MPH; Afiya Sajwani; Siobhan Gruschow, MPH, MEd; Courtney Finlayson, MD; Elisa J. Gordon, PhD, MPH; Emilie K. Johnson, MD, MPH; Rebecca Persky, MD; Nadia Dowshen, MD, MSHP; and Diane Chen, PhD

This abstract is available at Jefferson Digital Commons: https://jdc.jefferson.edu/si_hs_2022_phase1/4
Timing and Delivery of Fertility Preservation Information to Transgender Youth and Their Parents

Kit M. Quain, Moira A. Kyweluk, PhD, MPH, Afiya Sajwani, Siobhan Gruschow, MPH, MEd, Courtney Finlayson, MD, Elisa J. Gordon, PhD, MPH, Emilie K. Johnson, MD, MPH, Rebecca Persky, MD, Nadia Dowshen, MD, MSHP*, Diane Chen, PhD

(*) Indicates primary advisor

Introduction: Despite clinical guidelines to counsel transgender youth on fertility preservation (FP), utilization rates are low. This report aims to identify transgender youths’ and their parents’ preferences about who should provide FP information and FP discussion timing.

Methods: Data derived from two separate studies: an online survey and semi-structured qualitative interviews. Eligible participants included transgender youth ages 14-24 years and their parents/guardians. Survey data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. Interview data were analyzed in Dedoose, an online qualitative analysis program, using conventional content analysis. Inter-rater reliability testing was performed on a subset of interview transcripts, with pooled Kappas ≥0.80.

Results: Fifty-eight transgender youth (mean age=17 years, range: 14-22) and 38 parents participated in the survey. A separate group of 18 transgender youth (mean age=18 years, range: 15-24) and 13 parents participated in an interview. Most survey participants (youth: 91%,
parents: 92%) preferred that gender clinic physicians provide FP information, while nearly a third endorsed mental health professionals (youth: 29%, parents: 26%) and fertility experts (youth: 26%, parents: 29%) as preferred FP information sources. Interview participants’ FP discussion timing preferences ranged from the first clinic visit, follow-up visits, prior to medical intervention, to mentioning FP early but deferring in-depth discussion to follow-up visits.

**Conclusion:** Gender clinic physicians, mental health professionals, and fertility specialists should be prepared to engage transgender youth and parents in FP discussions. Opinions about when to provide FP information varied; therefore, FP discussion timing may need to be individualized.