

Bufdir's innspill til Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Below is Bufdir's input to the request from the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. We have answered the questions that are relevant to Bufdir's work and area of responsibility related to equality and non-discrimination.

1. Research: understanding the health care needs of LGBTI and GNC people

1.1. Does the State (or other stakeholders) gather data, including data disaggregated by sexual orientation and/or gender identity, on:

- access to and/or delivery of health services: N/A
- the number of new HIV infections per 1000 uninfected population?: Yes (source: FHI - Overvåkning av seksuelt overførbare infeksjoner og blodbårne hepatitter)
- The suicide mortality rate?: Yes. We have data on the percentage of LGBTI and GNC people who have had suicidal thoughts or attempted suicide. Source: Levekårsundersøkelsen 2020
- Coverage of treatment interventions for substance use disorders?: N/A
- Harmful use of alcohol?: Yes. We have data (disaggregated by sexual orientation and/or gender identity) on the percentage of people who drink alcohol weekly and number of people who excessively consume alcohol each week (source: Levekårsundersøkelsen 2020)
- Access to sexual and reproductive health care?: N/A
- Coverage of essential health services?: Yes – we have updated data on the percentage who have tested cell samples the last three years and undergone mammography the last two years (source: Levekårsundersøkelsen 2020)

1.2. What steps have been taken to research and understand the health care needs of LGBTI and GNC people of all ages at the national level?

A number of different research projects on said topic have been initiated over the past years (see list below).

- Anderssen, Norman, Helga Eggebø, Elisabeth Stubberud og Øystein Holmelid (2021) «Seksuell orientering, kjønns mangfold og levekår. Resultater fra spørreundersøkelsen 2020». Bergen: Institutt for samfunnspsykologi, Universitetet i Bergen.
- Fredrik Langeland, Helga Eggebø, Norman Anderssen og Elisabeth Stubberud (2021) «Interkjønn og variasjon i kroppslig kjønnsutvikling. Refleksjoner om identitet, helsetilbud og politikk», NF-rapport 5/2021. Bodø: Nordlandsforskning.
- Ongoing research project: Helsetilbud til personer med kjønnsinkongruens

1.3. Is this data analyzed through an intersectional lens, such as by disaggregating data by sexual orientation and/or gender identity, as well as intersecting identities including social or geographic origin, ethnicity, socio-economic status, nationality or migration status, minority, disability, and indigenous or other identity or status?

Yes, to different degrees.

2. Inclusion: LGBTI and GNC people in the decision-making process

2.1. What measures have been put in place to consult with and include persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in law and policy making in relation to the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and in relation to realising the SDGs?

- Civil society organizations are actively included in the drafting and implementation of national LGBTIQ equality action plans.
- Civil society organizations are actively involved and consulted in relevant research projects (some of which have been referred to here).

2.2. To what extent are persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity included in policies and practice around sexual and reproductive health care?

N/A

2.3. What support or technical assistance is needed to ensure that the health care needs of persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity people are comprehensively addressed and included in relevant laws, policies, and practices?

N/A

2.4. What are the main barriers, in law or practice, for persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity to receive care that meets their physical and mental health needs and rights?

N/A

3. Access: ensuring that LGBTI and GNC people have access to health care

3.1. What measures have been taken to ensure access to affordable non-discriminatory health care services for persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity?

N/A

3.2. What policies or programmes exist to address the mental health care needs of persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, specifically around depression and anxiety, suicidal ideation, and substance abuse?

N/A

3.3. What policies or programmes exist to assist the health care needs of persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity following the experience of assault or gender-based violence?

N/A

3.4. Have adequate human and financial resources been allocated to implement those policies and/or programmes?

N/A

4. Training and Education: health care professionals and educational institutions

4.1. Are sexual orientation and gender identity, and the specific health needs of persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, included in training and education of health care professionals?

N/A

4.2. What measures are being taken to provide age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education inclusive of sexual and gender diversity in educational institutions?

N/A

4.3. Are evidence-based and up-to-date guidelines that include SOGI issues available? How are they used to influence health related decisions on policy, programming, services including diagnostic manuals, and practices within the health care institutions?

N/A

5. Sustainable Development Goals

5.1. Where the State measures its progress against SDG3, does it make reference to the health outcomes and needs of persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity?

N/A

5.2. Does the State measure progress against any of the following SDG3 indicators for persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity? If so, please comment on whether health outcomes are improving or declining:

N/A