A Life-Changing Procedure

Gender is a cornerstone of identity and a profound expression of who you are. If your gender identity is different from the gender you were assigned at birth, gender affirmation surgery can have a profound and liberating impact on your life.

Helping you achieve alignment with your gender identity begins with your surgeon achieving alignment with you. Because gender affirmation surgery is one of the most personal procedures you can have, your surgeon’s approach should be as individualized, collaborative, and empathetic as possible. We are proud to offer comprehensive, multidisciplinary transgender care.

Our philosophy starts with listening. We spend the time needed to truly understand each patient’s situation and experience. We get to know you, ask questions, review photographs, and work hard to create sense of security and trust.
Who Can We Help?

Our multidisciplinary team provides comprehensive transgender care. We are experienced and equipped to help three categories of patients:

- Transmen seeking masculinizing (FTM) procedures
- Transwomen seeking feminizing (MTF) procedures
- Non-binary individuals seeking procedures to make their bodies more congruent with their gender identity

Our surgeons will work with you extensively, customizing your care to fit your goals and needs.

Before undergoing gender affirmation surgery, patients should be physically and emotionally healthy, with no major medical issues, such as diabetes, hypertension or obesity, that may impede the procedure or its recovery. Patients that smoke will need to quit prior to their surgery, as smoking can significantly delay and complicate recovery.

For detailed information on guidelines for who can safely undergo these procedures, please visit the website of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, at www.wpath.org.

Procedures

These are a few of the most sought-after procedures in gender alignment surgery available at MarinHealth Medical Center.

- Top Surgery: Chest masculinizing surgery
- Phalloplasty: Surgery to create male genitalia
- Facial Feminization: Surgery to create more feminine facial features
- Breast Augmentation: Chest feminizing surgery
- Vaginoplasty: Surgery to create female genitalia
- Body Contouring: Altering the shape of the body to be more feminine (fat grafting to buttocks and hips) or masculine (liposuction of hips)

Our Experts

Our accomplished surgeons are dedicated to guiding patients through their life-affirming journey to a happier, more fulfilling future. They are known for their powerful commitment to trans rights and their patient-centric, custom approach to gender affirmation surgery. All members of your care team have been specially trained in cultural competence and will treat you with dignity and understanding.

Guidance and Support

MarinHealth Medical Center has a nurse navigator dedicated to gender alignment surgery patients. You can rely on our nurse navigator to:

- Help coordinate your care during your hospital stay. If you would like to have a friend or loved one stay with you overnight, your nurse navigator can make those arrangements for you.
- Arrange for any desired in-hospital psychosocial support such as a therapeutic massage, a consult with a team member from spiritual care or behavioral health, or even a friendly visit from a therapy dog.
- Help arrange for your aftercare if you need to stay locally in Marin County. Some of our patients choose to recover at the Trans HeartLine House, a safe and affordable post-op recovery home for patients and their caregivers.

Meet Our Nurse Navigator

Amy Blevins RN, Director of Orthopedic and Gender Alignment Surgery, is a passionate and empathetic patient ally and advocate. She works closely with our patients to provide guidance and quality care. Amy has over three decades of nursing experience, having begun her career in the operating room at UCSF on the liver transplant team. She has worked at MarinHealth for more than 20 years. Amy volunteers at Trans HeartLine Home and also as an OR RN on Operation Rainbow orthopedic surgery trips in Central and South America.