CONVERGE July Newsletter
Center for Innovative Research on Gender Health Equity <CONVERGE@pitt.edu>
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To:

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## **Upcoming Meetings**



## Post SCOTUS Decision Community Gathering

July 1, 2022 at 11am

We will be hosting a post-Dobbs v JWHC convening. The purpose of this space is to gather as a community and discuss next steps for Southwest Pennsylvania. This will be a hybrid meeting with inperson at 3609 Forbes in the large conference room and a Zoom room.

A reminder with additional details with the location and Zoom link will be sent out July 1, 2022.

## Diversity Forum 2022 Rewiring our Systems July 25-28

The Intersections of Equity, Justice, and Health: Reproductive Autonomy for All

July 28, 2022 at 12pm

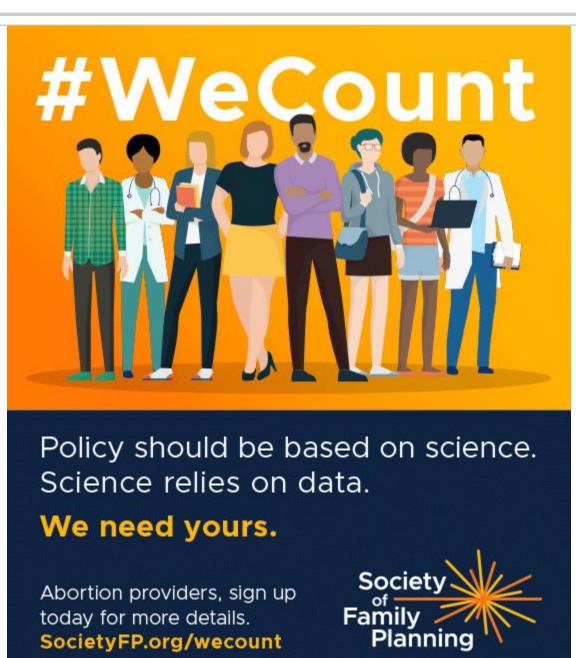
Reproductive autonomy is the ability to make reproductive health decisions that are best for an individual or family in their unique context. This session will look at the intersections of socio-economics, racial and gender identity, geography, and class, as well as structures and systems that impact the reproductive health and lives of diverse individuals and

communities. While abortion is a critical component of reproductive autonomy, our panelists will expand the discussion beyond abortion to include the complexities of family building, pregnancy-related mortality, infant health, and the historical context that has led us to where we are today in the arc towards reproductive justice.

More details on this event will be published soon. Register for this panel discussion and other events at <u>Pitt's 2022 Diversity Forum here.</u>

#### **Announcements**

The Society for Family Planning is organizing the WeCount initiative, which is a time-limited, national abortion reporting effort aimed at capturing data on the shifts in abortion access following the Dobbs v JWHO Supreme Court decision. Providers who participate will receive compensation for their time for the life of the project. If you are interested in participating or have questions you can reach out to Vanessa Arenas (varenas@societyfp.org) at SFP.



NAPW recently published the <u>Confronting Pregnancy Criminalization: A Practical Guide for Healthcare Providers, Lawyers, Medical Examiners, Child Welfare Workers, and Policymakers</u>.

## Confronting Pregnancy Criminalization

A Practical Guide for Healthcare Providers, Lawyers, Medical Examiners, Child Welfare Workers, and Policymakers

## **Highlighted Publications**

Dr. Chang surveyed medical student attitudes on the need for explicit consent for pelvic exams under anesthesia performed for educational purposes. <u>Students greatly supported the need for informed consent for pelvic and other sensitive exams.</u>



75%

of medical students endorsed the need for explicit informed consent for educational pelvic exams under anesthesia. 45%

of participants indicated that consent for educational pelvic exams under anesthesia should be a separate signature line on the surgical consent form.

77%

of participants indicated that consent for educational pelvic exams under anesthesia should be a verbal form.

40%

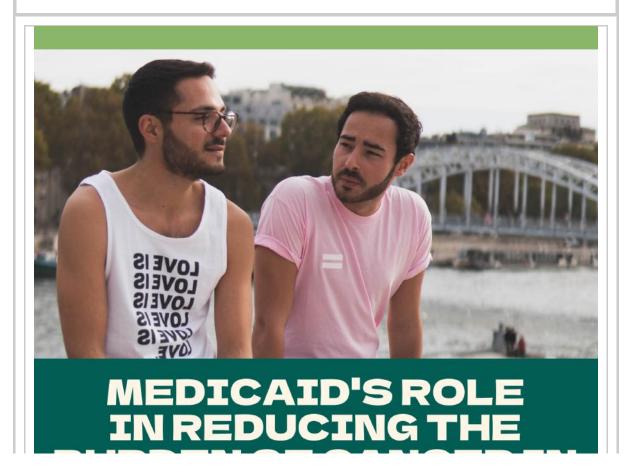
of students correctly identified institutional policy for obtaining informed consent for educational pelvic exams under anesthesia.





Citation: Benjamin E. Zuchelkowski, Soukaina Eljamri, Jill E. McDonnell, Bhavya Varma, Natalie G. Stern, Scott D. Rothenberger, Kavita Shah Arora, Judy C. Chang, Medical Student Attitudes on Explicit Informed Consent for Pelvic Exams Under Anesthesia, Journal of Surgical Education, Volume 79, Issue 3, 2022, Pages 676-685, ISSN 1931-7204, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsurg.2021.12.013. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1931720421003809

Dr. Lindsay Sabik recently looked at <u>Medicaid's role in reducing the burden of cancer in</u> <u>men with HIV</u> and the need for improvement in the accessibility and affordability of care, continuous insurance coverage, and reducing the financial burden of cancer treatment for all



## BURDEN OF CANCER IN MEN WITH HIV

2X

the prevalence of cancer in men living with HIV compared to men without an HIV diagnosis





A national sample of men living with HIV showed

LYMPHOMA & ANAL CANCER

were the most prevalent.

Among men living with HIV

10–20%
of deaths are attributed to cancer



# A GREATER EMPHASIS ON CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL IS NEEDED

We need to improve the accessibility and affordability of cancer screenings.



We need continuous insurance coverage to ensure access to treatment. This could prevent worsening of HIV symptoms, may detect cancers early, and may even prevent some cancers.

We need to improve the affordability of cancer related health care and reduce the financial burden of cancer treatment





Bradley, C. J., & Sabik, L. M. (2022). An ounce of prevention: Medicaid's role in reducing the burden of cancer in men with HIV Cancer 128(10) 1900–1903. https://doi.org/10.1002/cacr.34167

Koroukian, Siran M. et al. "Excess Cancer Prevalence in Men with HIV: A Nationwide Analysis of Medicaid Data." Cancer 128.10 (2022): 1987–1995. Web.

Dr. Elizabeth Miller's recent study findings show that gender minority youth are not more likely to use sexual violence than their cisgender peers has the potential to counter pervasive and harmful narratives and numerous legislative efforts that are central to the ways in which trans identity has been weaponized in contemporary political discourse.

Gender minority youth experience increased rates of violence, including threat or injury with a weapon, forced sexual intercourse, dating violence, and bullying.

Gender minority youth had twice the odds of ever experiencing sexual violence than cisgender youth.

Citation: Miller E. Sexual Violence and Gender Minority Youth. JAMA Netw Open. 2022;5(6):e2215866. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.15866

Despite the higher prevalence of experiencing violence, gender minority youth were not more likely to ever use sexual violence against others.

Citation: Miller E. Sexual Violence and Gender Minority Youth. JAMA Netw Open. 2022;5(6):e2215866, doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.15866

Finding that gender minority youth are not more likely to use sexual violence than their cisgender peers has the potential to counter pervasive and harmful narratives and numerous legislative efforts that are central to the ways in which trans identity has been weaponized in contemporary political discourse.

Citation: Miller E. Sexual Violence and Gender Minority Youth. JAMA Netw Open. 2022;5(6):e2215866. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.1586

## **Funding Opportunities**

- NIH, P01, NICHD Program Project Grants for HIV Research. This Funding
   Opportunity Announcement invites submission of Program Project applications to
   support integrated, multi-project research programs that address HIV scientific areas
   relevant to the NICHD mission as a well-defined, central research focus or objective.
   Letter of Intent due July 10, 2022.
- HHS OWH, Reducing Maternal Deaths Due to Substance Use Disorder. This
  initiative addresses the intersection of three HHS Priority areas: maternal health;
  mental health; and substance use disorder. The development and evaluation of such
  interventions align with OWH's work on disease prevention and health promotion for
  issues of particular concern to women throughout their lifespan. Applications are
  due July 11, 2022.
- HHS OWH, <u>Violence Against Women and Substance Use Prevention Initiative</u>. This
  initiative addresses the intersection of the following HHS Priority areas: maternal
  health; mental health; substance use disorder; and intimate partner violence. In

addition, the training of providers and development and evaluation of interventions align with OWH's work on disease prevention and health promotion for issues of particular concern to women throughout their lifespan; support of new and innovative programs in health information and health promotion, preventive health services; and work to provide for the exchange of information. **Applications are due July 13, 2022.** 

- SFP, <u>Uta Landy Complex Family Planning Scholars</u>. Complex family planning subspecialists, with their focus on providing care for people with complex abortion and contraception needs, are well-positioned to produce abortion and contraception research that ultimately shapes clinical practice and medical education. As members of a recently-certified subspecialty, they hold the potential to leverage the resources of academic medicine in service of family planning research that is primed for impact. Applications are due August 2, 2022.
- NIH, R01, <u>Understanding the Clinical History of Bacterial Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) to Accelerate Diagnostic and Vaccine Development.</u> The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to support studies on the clinical history of three sexually transmitted infections (STIs): syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia. Improved understanding of the human immune response after infection through diagnosis and treatment will provide a much-needed knowledge base to accelerate vaccine and diagnostic development. Applications open on August 12, 2022.
- NIH, R61/R33, <u>Stimulants and HIV: Addressing Contemporary and Recurring Epidemics</u>. The primary goal of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to support research to improve HIV prevention and care outcomes among people who use stimulants, encompassing a range of stimulant use (from episodic to persistent, methamphetamine and cocaine derivatives), including stimulant use co-occurring with the use of opioids and/or other drugs. Applications open on October 10, 2022.
- NIH, U24, Maternal and Pediatric Precision in Therapeutics Translational Research Resource Platform. As part of the Maternal and Pediatric Precision in Therapeutics (MPRINT) initiative, this FOA will focus on resource platforms to support concerted multidisciplinary team science efforts that leverage existing and prospective resources (biobanks, biological sample repositories, omics data, tissue specific genomic/epigenomic atlases, EHRs, etc.) and develop innovative technologies and analytic tools to advance therapeutic research for maternal and pediatric precision therapeutics. Applications are due November 1, 2022.
- NIH, R21, <u>Transgender People: Immunity</u>, <u>Prevention</u>, and <u>Treatment of HIV and STIs</u>. The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to support hypothesis-generating research in transgender people with the objective of characterizing the biological and immunological impact of the interventions (hormones, drugs and surgical) used for gender reassignment and their impact on susceptibility to HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STI). **Applications open November 7**, 2022.

- June 29: The Evolution of Abortion by Telemedicine: A Clinical and Regulatory Overview is a one-hour webinar is hosted by Nelson Hardiman, a nationally recognized law firm specialized in health law, regulatory compliance, and strategy. In the introductory session, Harry Nelson and Dr. Elizabeth Raymond will provide an overview of telemedicine abortion, including its development, clinical and regulatory evolution, and how it has changed and is changing the conversation around abortion-related care.
- June 29: Breaking the Law or Breaking the Oath? will bring leading physician, legal, and ethicist voices together to discuss how the *Dobbs* decision betrays America's patients and physicians—and asks physicians to be complicit by betraying their patients as well. While it's difficult to anticipate the reach and effects of the oncoming wave of abortion bans and restrictions, panelists will discuss how clinicians must prepare themselves mentally for the changes they will be forced to make and provide ideas on how the medical community can bring the most ethical and comprehensive care possible to patients.
- July 5: After an unprecedented, explosive leak of an opinion draft overturning Roe v. Wade, America awaits a final opinion from the Supreme Court on Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization that is expected to change American law and the lives of millions. Join Roe on the Brink Breaking Down the Supreme Court's Final Decision as three esteemed legal scholars and a journalist on the reproductive rights beat explain what the Court has ultimately handed down and the anticipated dissents.
- July 13: The inaugural fundraiser for the Western Pennsylvania Hospital Reproductive Health Access Fund is hapening on Wednesday, July 13, 2022 at Butterjoint (208 N Craig St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213). As you already know, if Roe vs Wade is overturned, we anticipate three times as many patients seeking abortion in Pittsburgh. For patients with certain medical conditions, an in-hospital abortion is the only safe option for abortion care, and can cost five to six thousand dollars. The Reproductive Health Access Fund will ensure access to in-hospital abortion care for these medically vulnerable patients at West Penn Hospital. Butterjoint restaurant has kindly donated dinner and drinks for all attendees, so all proceeds will go directly to the Fund. Tickets are on a sliding scale, at levels of \$250, \$700, \$1500, and \$5000 per person. Please contact Yasaswi Kislovskiy, MD MSc (email: ykislovs@ahn.org) for ticket details to participate in this event.
- July 14: <u>How Innovation is Transforming Women's Mental Health</u> is a miniconference we want to explore the intersection of women's mental health and innovation, invite researchers, entrepreneurs and investors to share their thoughts.
- July 14: SWHR is hosting a series of webinars to share educational information
  about the impact of menopause on women's health. <u>Menopause Mindfulness: A</u>
  <u>Personal Toolkit for Menopause Preparedness</u> will explore the new toolkit, as
  healthy aging experts share tips on living well through the menopause transition.
- July 25-28: <u>Pitt's Diversity Forum</u> will feature a dynamic array of keynote programs
  and community-led sessions that aim to develop social equity consciousness and
  systems thinking approaches. Programs will address the intersections of social
  identities and cultivate models for advancing social justice.

• July 28: <u>Diverse Voices: Intersectionality and the Health of Women</u> will feature presentations from Dr. Stephaun E. Wallace and Dr. Heather Shattuck-Heidorn. In Dr. Wallace's session, attendees will learn about the efforts and strategies involved to ensure diverse enrollment in COVID-19 vaccine trials conducted by the CoVPN. Dr. Shattuck-Heidorn will offer an account of intersectionality as live theory and practice in feminist STS and research, grounded in the experiences the GenderSci Lab had during its published analysis of racial and sex disparities in COVID-19 mortality.

## **Open Calls**

- Trans Pride Pittsburgh's Health and Wellness Conference Call for Proposals:
   TransPride Pittsburgh is currently accepting program proposals to be presented at their Health and Wellness Conference to be held Oct 6th-8th, 2022. The proposal can be for a seminar, presentation, panel, workshop, discussion group, activity/performance space, fellowship activity, arts and crafts, etc. More information can be found <a href="here">here</a> Rolling Deadline.</a>
- NIH's Genger & Health: Impacts of Structural Sexism, Gender Norms,
  Relational Power Dynamics, and Gender Inequities Poster Abstract
  Submissions: Accepted abstracts will be presented in the workshop program book.
  Selected posters will be presented asynchronously by video and available for viewing by all registrants. The top three posters will be selected to present live during the event. More information can be found <a href="here.">here.</a>. Abstract submissions are due July 18, 2022.
- Society of Family Planning Lifetime Achievement Award: This award is for individuals and/or teams who have spent their careers advancing the science of abortion and contraception, and have supported others in achieving their own success. More information can be found <a href="here">here</a>. Deadline for nominations is July 21, 2022.
- Society of Family Planning Beacon of Science Award: This award is reserved for individuals and/or teams who have made marked, visionary contributions towards just and equitable abortion and contraception informed by science. More information can be found <a href="here">here</a>. Deadline for nominations is July 21, 2022.
- Society of Family Planning Mentor Award: This award is for individuals and/or teams who have demonstrated dedication to supporting and furthering the careers of a new generation of academic clinicians or scholars in the field of family planning. More information can be found <a href="here">here</a>. Deadline for nominations is July 21, 2022.
- Society of Family Planning Next Generation Award: This new award honors
  individuals early in their careers who have exhibited commitment to the field of
  family planning through their research or clinical practice. Individuals are eligible to
  receive this award if they are currently in training or will have completed training in
  the last five years at the time of the award submission. More information can be
  found <a href="https://peacline.org/here/">here.</a> Deadline for nominations is July 21, 2022.

Liberating Temporality and Spatiality Conference Submission: The GCWS conference "Liberating Temporality and Spatiality" welcomes graduate students in all areas of study to submit their abstracts or synopses of in-progress scholarly papers, dissertation or thesis chapters, article drafts, or in-progress film/mixed media works. Proposals may come in the form of papers, films, art, performance, visual art, or alternate forms not listed above. More information can be found <a href="here.">here.</a> Deadline for submissions is October 31, 2022.

## **Employment, Fellowship, Postdoc, and Internship Opportunities**

CONVERGE is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of <u>Research</u>
 <u>Assistant</u>. This position will provide support for several research projects
 focusing on women's reproductive health at the University of Pittsburgh
 and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Have anything you want to add to our monthly newsletter? Please <u>email us</u> about publications, awards, events, trainings, and more!



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