

# Improving cervical cancer screening rates for transgender men

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Credit: Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., publishers

A new study indicates that alternative options for cervical cancer screening, including self-sampling for human papilloma virus (HPV) testing, could improve the screening rate among transgender men. More than half of the participants expressed a preference for HPV self-sampling in the study published in *LGBT Health*.

Approximately half of the study participants did not have a Pap smear to screen for cervical [cancer](#) within the previous 3 years, according to coauthors Julia Seay, PhD, Roy Weiss, MD, Christopher Salgado, MD, Lydia Fein, MD, and Erin Kobetz, PhD, MPH, University of Miami, FL, and Atticus Ranck, Sunshine Social Services, Inc., Fort Lauderdale, FL. In the article entitled "Understanding Transgender Men's Experiences with and Preferences for Cervical Cancer Screening: A Rapid Assessment Survey," the authors emphasize the need for innovative primary screening alternatives such as HPV self-sampling and the importance of testing the effectiveness of this approach in transgender men in future studies.

"This important study identifies factors, including HPV self-sampling, that may improve cervical cancer screening among [transgender men](#) with a cervix and translate into reduced cervical cancer morbidity and mortality in this population," says *LGBT Health* Editor-in-Chief William Byne, MD, PhD, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY.

**More information:** Julia Seay et al, Understanding Transgender Men's Experiences with and Preferences for Cervical Cancer Screening: A Rapid Assessment Survey, *LGBT Health* (2017). [DOI: 10.1089/lgbt.2016.0143](#)

Provided by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc

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