

Research finds ED use increases for transgender, gender-diverse medicare beneficiaries

February 13 2024, by Elana Gotkine



Transgender and gender-diverse (TGD) Medicare beneficiaries are more likely to use the emergency department than their cisgender peers, according to a research letter [published](#) online Feb. 12 in *JAMA Internal*

Medicine.

Gray Babbs, M.P.H., from the Brown University School of Public Health in Providence, Rhode Island, and colleagues examined national [emergency department](#) use among TGD beneficiaries and cisgender beneficiaries using data from 2011 to 2020. The analyses included 3,639 TGD and 6,151,389 cisgender Medicare beneficiaries.

The researchers found that compared with cisgender beneficiaries, older TGD beneficiaries (aged 65 years and older) were more likely to use the emergency department in a year (20.2 percentage points; relative difference, 172.9 percent); TGD beneficiaries with disabilities were also more likely than cisgender beneficiaries with disabilities to use the emergency department (27.8 percentage points; relative difference, 157.4 percent).

For TGD individuals, the increases in likelihood were similar for emergent and nonemergent conditions. Compared with cisgender beneficiaries, TGD beneficiaries were more likely to use the emergency department for mental health care.

Furthermore, disabled TGD beneficiaries were more likely to use the emergency department for [mental health care](#) than cisgender disabled beneficiaries (7.3 versus 1.2 percent; relative difference, 486.5 percent).

In the older group and the group with disabilities, TGD beneficiaries were more likely to be admitted to the hospital from the emergency department (2.0 percentage points for both; relative differences, 67.1 and 38.7 percent, respectively).

"Clinicians and front-line staff should be trained in TGD-inclusive care and cultural humility to reduce enacted discrimination in primary care settings and reduce emergency department utilization for TGD Medicare

beneficiaries," the authors write.

More information: Gray Babbs et al, Emergency Department Use Disparities Among Transgender and Cisgender Medicare Beneficiaries, 2011-2020, *JAMA Internal Medicine* (2024). [DOI: 10.1001/jamainternmed.2023.8209](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2023.8209)

Lona Mody, Quantifying Use of Emergency Services by Transgender and Gender-Diverse Individuals, *JAMA Internal Medicine* (2024). [DOI: 10.1001/jamainternmed.2023.8214](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2023.8214)

Copyright © 2024 [HealthDay](https://www.healthday.com). All rights reserved.

Citation: Research finds ED use increases for transgender, gender-diverse medicare beneficiaries (2024, February 13) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2024-02-ed-transgender-gender-diverse-medicare.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.