Researchers describe need for health systems to improve care of gender non-binary patients
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A perspective piece authored by UMN Medical School researchers and published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* uncovers significant healthcare disparities for individuals who identify as neither male nor female or may not identify as having a gender.

The article *Persons of Nonbinary Gender—Awareness, Visibility, and Health Disparities* states 19 percent of non-binary patients have been refused medical treatment because of their gender identity and in the past year, 23 percent of these individuals have avoided medical care because of fear of discrimination.

"Our findings really highlight that there's a lot of skepticism and hesitancy around nonbinary and gender nonconforming patients to engage with healthcare professionals," said Walter Liszewski, MD, University of Minnesota Medical School Dermatology Resident and the author of the article.

Liszewski says these issues are further compounded by the fact that many individuals have been discriminated against in the healthcare setting.

"The medical literature in the medical communities is not keeping up to date with society. My hope is that physicians who read the article will become aware of nonbinary patients, and realize we need to do a better job of allowing these individuals to access quality healthcare."


Provided by University of Minnesota

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