



Final report – *January – December 2017*

The EUPHA section on Sexual and Gender Minority Health was formally established in November 2016 after decisions by the EUPHA Section Council and the EUPHA Governing Board. In 2016, the section worked on further developing and clarifying the section's aim and vision. Over the course of 2017, the section focused on further establishing the necessary logistical and communication channels and expanding the network of affiliated researchers and students.

This report will describe the aims and current structure of the section, the activities for 2017, and some of the planned activities for 2018.

Section aims

The aim of this section is to:

- Increase knowledge on sexual and gender minority populations differences in health and healthcare across Europe
- Promote monitoring of health disparities among LGBT populations
- Explore the underlying mechanisms and reasons for health disparities in this group
- Spread knowledge on sexual and gender minority populations differences in health and health care
- Promote the development and dissemination of interventions that aim to tackle these differences

Current priorities

The section's activities in 2017 focused on:

- Expanding the network
- Increasing visibility and awareness of LGBT health issues at the annual conference
- Establishing collaborations with individuals and institutions

Section's structure

- President: Richard Bränström, PhD (richard.branstrom@ki.se)
- Vice-president: Arjan van der Star, MSc (arjan.van.der.star@ki.se)
- Registered section members: 204 (December 2017)
- As the section is currently in the initial growth phase, no steering committee or young representative has not yet been appointed.

Program during Stockholm 2017

The EUPHA section on Sexual and Gender Minority Health (co-) organized or actively participated in the following activities during Stockholm 2017:

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 1ST

Pre-conference: To achieve gender equality – the importance of reaching young men (PHAS)

12:30-17:00

Organized by the Public Health Agency of Sweden

Introductory presentation of a literature overview of trends regarding young men's health, with focus on men 15–29 years of age
Sven Bremberg MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Senior consultant at the Public Health Agency of Sweden

Theoretical section that puts the subject “on the map” – about masculinity in general, how it may have changed and how this may affect men's health.

Anna Månsdotter, Bachelor of Science in Economics, PhD, Associate Professor, Head of Unit at the Public Health Agency of Sweden

Masculinity norms and suicide

Lars Jalmert, emeritus Professor of education at Stockholm University, has researched and taught about gender and equality issues since the mid-1970s

Violence – violence and discrimination among LGBT people in all 27 EU member states related to legislation and acceptance of LGBT people

Richard Bränström, PhD, Associate Professor, Analyst at the Public Health Agency of Sweden

National population survey – among 16–29 years of age on sexuality and health – Aspects of equality and a norm-critical perspective on sexually transmitted infections, sexual assault, sex-for-pay and knowledge, information and access to health and medical care.

Anna-Chuchu Schindele, Analyst at the Public Health Agency of Sweden

Gaming, alcohol, young men and masculinity

Jessika Spångberg, PhD analyst at the Public Health Agency of Sweden

Panel discussion with a number of invited speakers such as Lars Jalmert

Johan Carlson, Director-General of the Public Health Agency of Sweden

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 2ND

Workshop: Mental health of lesbian, gay and bisexuals: results from national and cross-European studies (I.M.)

9:00-10:30

Organized by the EUPHA section on Sexual and Gender Minority Health

Chairperson(s): Richard Bränström - EUPHA (SGMH), Arjan van der Star - EUPHA (SGMH)

Hidden from happiness: Structural stigma, sexual orientation concealment, and life satisfaction among sexual minorities across 28 European countries

Richard Bränström - EUPHA (SGMH)

Insights into mental health among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and the Republic of Ireland

Lisa Mcdaid - United Kingdom

Mental health and military service by sexual orientation among young Swiss men

Jen Wang - Switzerland

Social anxiety in sexual minorities: A systematic review of the empirical literature

Conor Mahon - Ireland

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3RD

Networking: Sexual and gender minority health: Join the network (JTN20)

12:10-13:40

Organized by the EUPHA section on Sexual and Gender Minority Health

Chairperson(s): Richard Bränström - EUPHA (SGMH), Arjan van der Star - EUPHA (SGMH)

Publications by section members on Sexual and Gender Minority Health

Pachankis, R. Bränström, R. (2017). Hidden from happiness: structural stigma, sexual orientation concealment, and life satisfaction across 28 countries. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology (In press)*.

Blondeel, K., de Vasconcelos, S., García-Moreno, C., Stephenson, R., Temmermana, M., & Toskinb, I. (2017). Violence motivated by perception of sexual orientation and gender identity: a systematic review. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Geneva*.

Bränström, R. (2017). Minority stress factors as mediators of sexual orientation disparities in mental health treatment: a longitudinal population-based study. *J Epidemiol Community Health, jech-2016*.

Cramer, R. J., Burks, A. C., Plöderl, M., & Durgampudi, P. (2017). Minority stress model components and affective well-being in a sample of sexual orientation minority adults living with HIV/AIDS. *AIDS care, 1-7*.

Hatzenbuehler, M. L., Bränström, R., & Pachankis, J. E. (2016). Societal-level Explanations for Reductions in Sexual Orientation Mental Health Disparities: Results From a Ten-year, Population-based Study in Sweden. *Stigma and Health (In press)*.

Kralovec, K., Kunrath, S., Fartacek, C., Pichler, E. M., & Plöderl, M. (2017). The Gender-Specific Associations Between Religion/Spirituality and Suicide Risk in a Sample of Austrian Psychiatric Inpatients. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*.

Niederseer, D., Stadlmayr, A., Huber-Schönauer, U., Plöderl, M., Schmied, C., Lederer, D., ... & Datz, C. (2017). Cardiovascular Risk and Known Coronary Artery Disease Are Associated With Colorectal Adenoma and Advanced Neoplasia. *Journal of the American College of Cardiology, 69(18), 2348-2350*.

Plöderl, M., Kunrath, S., Cramer, R. J., Wang, J., Hauer, L., & Fartacek, C. (2017). Sexual orientation differences in treatment expectation, alliance, and outcome among patients at risk for suicide in a public psychiatric hospital. *BMC psychiatry, 17(1), 184*.

Planned activities for 2018

To investigate options for and to create a more *interactive way of communication* within the section to enable two-way exchange. LinkedIn groups (or similar platforms) could facilitate this.

In order to keep section members actively engaged throughout the year, it might be interesting to organize a *meeting* in-between the annual conferences – when there is enough of an agenda. Funding could potentially come from programs as Erasmus+. If additional funding is not available, one could also think about organizing a webinar instead. *Additional note: The recently acquired EU operating grant may facilitate this (check with EUPHA office).* Local NGOs could be involved in such a local event.

It is suggested to look into exchange and collaboration with other organizations and conferences, like the ILGA conference that is more oriented on policies.

To investigate the opportunity for and initiate a student award for studies on sexual and gender minority health.

To further structure the section, it was proposed to establish a steering committee. A call for committee members will be send around via newsletter. Kristefer Stojanovski (Macedonia) and Lisa McDaid (UK) expressed potential interest. Also, the possibility for a liaison with the Austrian Association for Public Health will be assessed.

Action to be finalized in early 2018:

- Rewrite and reprioritize the aims of the section based on the new input
- Develop a roadmap for future growth and activities
- Assess funding for a physical meeting
- Discuss the plan for initiating a student award with the EUPHA office
- Promote the section in the EUPHA newsletter
- Send out a call for steering group members