

Annual report 2019

EUPHA Sexual and gender minority health section (EUPHA-SGMH)

This report shortly summarizes the section's previous and current aims and activities, and the planned activities for 2020.

Previous activities by the section, 2016-2018

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 and 2018, the section focused on establishing the necessary logistical and communication channels and expanding the network of affiliated researchers and students.

Activities in 2019

Among other activities, the section has been active by focusing on its three main priorities for 2019:

- *Expanding the network:*

The network grew by 55.8% over the past 12 months (301 members in September 2018 and 473 in September 2019) (Update December 2019: 541 members).

- *Collaborating with other EUPHA sections:*

Over the course of 2018, the section appointed several informal liaison persons with several other EUPHA sections, such as Public Mental Health, Infectious Diseases Control, and Public Health Monitoring and Reporting.

- *Increasing visibility and awareness at the annual conference and beyond:*

1. Editorial in the European Journal of Public Health

Based on the discussions during the roundtable workshop session at the 2018 annual EUPHA conference in Ljubljana: 'Strategies to Monitor the Health and Health Care Needs of LGBT Individuals across Europe', an editorial text was published in the European Journal of Public Health. The editorial can be accessed here:

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/article/29/2/199/5407695>

2. Seminar during the European Public Health Week

On the Friday of the first European Public Health Week, Dr. Richard Bränström (Karolinska Institute, Sweden, and section president) presented current research concerning the mental health of young lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals. The seminar was organized by the Karolinska Institutet and the EUPHA section on Sexual and Gender Minority Health. Those interested were able to attend in-person or to live stream the seminar. The full recording of the session with the title 'Mental health among young LGBT individuals' can be accessed

here: <https://staff.ki.se/international-day-against-homophobia-transphobia-and-biphobia>

3. Section brochure in different languages

Over the course of 2019, an effort has been made to create a section brochure describing the aims and goals of the section and to make this brochure available in several local European languages.

4. Official Twitter account

In December 2019, an official Twitter account was launched for the section ([@EUPHA_SGMH](https://twitter.com/EUPHA_SGMH)). With this account, the section aims to reach larger audiences beyond its current membership and newsletter subscribers. In this way, the section hopes to engage with public health researchers and professionals from other continents than Europe and who are in earlier stages of their careers, in preparation of the World Congress on Public Health 2020 in Rome.

5. Activities at the annual European Public Health Conference

The section is organized two different workshops during the European Public Health Conference in Marseille, titled: 'Predictors and developmental timing of mental health problems among sexual minority individuals' and 'Addressing the mental health needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender populations.' Furthermore, the section was represented in various other sessions, e.g., panel discussions and poster presentations. Please find attached the full program on Sexual and Gender Minority Health at the European Public Health Conference in Marseille.

Activities in 2020

In 2020, the section will aim to organize workshops on Sexual and Gender Minority Health from a global perspective at the upcoming World Congress on Public Health in Rome. Furthermore, during the annual 'Join the Network' meeting, several themes for workshops were proposed. The section will seek collaborations with other EUPHA sections, other organizations, and researchers from Europe and beyond to explore the possibilities to put together proposals for workshops on these different themes. For a full list of proposed themes, please find the minutes of the 'Join the Network' meeting attached. Furthermore, throughout the year 2020, the section will seek to reinitiated two of its working groups, namely on measuring sexual and gender minority identities in population surveys and on transgender health. In order to facilitate easier networking on national level and between countries, the section will aim to establish a list of country representatives in 2020.

Program during Marseille 2019

A list of activities that are related to sexual and gender minority health:

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21ST

Workshop: **Predictors and developmental timing of mental health problems among sexual minority individuals (2.K.)**

10:10-11:10 – Endoume 3

Organized by the EUPHA section on Sexual and Gender Minority Health

Chairperson(s): *Corina Lelutiu-Weinberger - United States of America, Richard Bränström - EUPHA (SGMH)*

Depression and self-harm from adolescence to young adulthood in sexual minorities compared with heterosexuals in the UK: a population-based cohort study

Gemma Lewis - United Kingdom

Sexual orientation openness and depression symptoms: A population-based study

Arjan van der Star - EUPHA (SGMH)

Minority stress, intra-minority stress and social anxiety: Examining an extended psychological mediation framework among sexual minority men

Conor Mahon - Ireland

Untethered lives: Barriers to societal integration as predictors of the sexual orientation disparity in suicidality

John Pachankis - United States of America

Networking: **Sexual and gender minority health: Join the network (JTN13)**

12:30-13:30 – Endoume 4

Organized by the EUPHA section on Sexual and Gender Minority Health

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

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22ND

Pitch presentations: **Sexual life, sexual health and gender: connecting the dots (5.F.)**

11:10-12:10 – Endoume 2

Chairperson(s): *Arjan van der Star - EUPHA (SGMH), Lara Tivoschi - Ital*

Does Sense make sense? Mixed methods study of a Dutch sexual health program

Rosa Joosten - Netherlands

Sexuality education in Europe – An assessment of the current state, challenges and good practice

Laura Brockschmidt - Germany

PrEP users among Lisbon MSM Cohort participants – A first look after PrEP implementation in Portugal

Francisco Fernandes - Portugal

Prevalence of gonorrhoea and chlamydia in a community clinic for Men who Have Sex with Men in Portugal

Sofia Ribeiro - Portugal

How to reach migrant transgender women in Paris? An example of collaborative sexual health action

Antoine Deslandes - France

Gender-specific health literacy of individuals with a migrant background: A mixed-method approach

Angela Aldin - Germany

Workshop: Addressing the mental health needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender populations (6.K.)

14:50-15:50 – Endoume 3

Organized by the EUPHA section on Sexual and Gender Minority Health

Chairperson(s): *John Pachankis - United States of America, Arjan van der Star - EUPHA (SGMH)*

Web-based training and supervision for LGBT-affirmative mental health practice: A randomized controlled trial

Corina Lelutiu-Weinberger - United States

Reduction in mental health treatment utilization among transgender individuals after gender-affirming surgeries: A total population study

Richard Bränström - EUPHA (SGMH)

Well Being of Older Gay and Bisexual Men and Women in England: Results of a Cross-Sectional Population Based Study

Igor Grabovac – Austria

The role of country-level structural stigma on sexual orientation disclosure and discrimination in health care settings among lesbian, gay, and bisexuals across Europe

John Pachankis - United States of America

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23RD

Workshop: How to do (and not to do) gender in health research: methods developments and lessons from the field (9.P.)

11:10-12:40 – Mounine

Organized by the Bielefeld University

Chairperson(s): *Celine Miani - Germany, Melanie Boeckmann - Germany*

Conceptual framework for intersectionality-based gender sensitivity in multivariable analysis

Emily Mena - Germany

Operationalisation of gender and migration in epidemiological research – a systematic review

Lisa Wandschneider - Germany

Violation of maternal integrity during childbirth: a micro-, meso- and macrostructural perspective

Stephanie Batram-Zantvoort - Germany

A critical discussion of theoretical foundations and measurement methods of gender roles

Philipp Jaehn - Germany

Lessons from the field: Gender roles and researcher reflexivity in smoking cessation in South Asia

Melanie Boeckmann - Germany

THROUGHOUT THE CONFERENCE

Posters: Migration and health (DB)

08:30-17:00 – Poster displays

DB.44 - Combined sexual prevention targeted to LGBTI+ migrants: between 'outdoor' and 'indoor' hospital

Cyriac Bouchet-Mayer - France

Posters: Infectious diseases, preparedness and vaccines (DP)

08:30-17:00 – Poster displays

DP.38 - Understanding the complexities of HIV risk among sexual minority men in a global context
Kristefer Stojanovski - United States of America

Posters: Mental health (DR)

08:30-17:00 – Poster displays

DR.24 - Verbal victimisation and mental health of sexual minority adults in France.
Fabienne El-Khoury - France

Posters: LGBTI and minorities health (DU)

08:30-17:00 – Poster displays

DU.5 - Pre-exposure prophylaxis in a sexual health clinic for Men who Have Sex with Men in Portugal
Sofia Ribeiro - Portugal

DU.6 - Reality of trans-identity in Benin and social reactions: Analysis based on a national survey in 2017
Yolaine Glele Ahanhanzo - Benin

DU.7 - Knowledge and sexual behaviors of transgender individuals faced with the risk of STI/HIV in Benin
Yolaine Glele Ahanhanzo - Benin

DU.8 - Sexual orientation disparities in age of sexual debut: effects of different predictor measurements
Kai-Yuan Cheng - United Kingdom

DU.10 - Understanding discrimination faced by transgender people in the health and social care settings
Christina Dziejawska-Stringer – Belgium

Minutes Join-the-Network Meeting 2019

Date

November 21st, 2019 between 12.30-1.30pm

Place

12th European Public Health Conference Marseille

Attendees

About 20 persons coming from Austria, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the UK, and the US.

Agenda

1. Introductions by the steering committee and attendees
2. Brief introduction to the section
3. Update on current activities
4. Future activities and planning for WCPH 2020 in Rome
5. Discussion

MINUTES

3. Update on current activities

The EUPHA section on Sexual and Gender Minority Health is organizing two workshops during this year's conference and will be actively participating a total of 4 sessions. The section has over 500 members now. Over the past year, *Michal Pitoňák* from the Czech Republic has been working on creating a pamphlet that summarizes the section's aims, which were then translated into 10 different languages. More languages will be added later. The issues on finding sources for additional funding and the early-career award were raised as points for the discussion toward the end of the meeting.

5. Discussion

As suggestions for topics for workshops during Rome 2020, the discussion resulted in the following list of ideas and themes:

- Follow-up on earlier workshop on health monitoring and national representative surveys; shifting the focus more toward how to measure, facilitate young people's experiences, discuss the need for update recommendations etc.,
- Collaboration with other sections regarding the intersection of sexuality, sexual orientation, and health;
- Workshop: From treatment and prevention, to health promotion and resilience;
- Health law & cross-border care for sexual and gender minorities;
- Health economic perspectives on interventions targeted at sexual and gender minorities;
- Widening differences in acceptance across Europe; seeking collaborations with sociologists.

Other topics:

- Can the section create a list/overview of the key stakeholders and contact persons in each country regarding their population-based surveys? Do we know who to target? Can we enter recommended questions into the online database for recommended representative survey questions?
- *Igor Grabovac* will reinitiate the project on measures and measurement issues for population-based surveys. When interested get in contact via: igor.grabovac@meduniwien.ac.at
- There is still a need for an early-career award. It should be promoted among a wider audience; engage with EuroHealthNet, EUPHANxt, IFMSA etc.
- Deadline for abstracts for the World Congress is March 1st – let's aim to include many other continents.
- Members can only get in touch with each other by posing calls for collaboration in the section's newsletter, because of privacy legislation.
- The section could aim to appoint representatives for each country, who would know better who is working on SGMH in their own countries. In this way, it would be easier to connect people within our own member base.