National LGBT Health Awareness Week

march 12–18, 2006 | www.lgbthealth.net

Own Your Health. Get Checked Out.

PROVIDERS
Fact Sheet

Create safe environments to promote healthy LGBT people

Ensuring that all patients receive culturally competent care is at the core of high quality health care. To provide the best care possible, clinicians must create a safe environment that fosters open communication about all the issues that effect and affect the health and well being of the client being served. Accurate knowledge of sexual orientation and gender identity impacts care for STDs, risk for HIV, counseling, cancer risk, screening, parenting, depression, alcohol use, smoking, and violence, among others. Being aware of your patient's sexual orientation and gender identity allows you to provide the most optimal care.

Sexual orientation gives clues to a patient's sexual behaviors. But it is important to not only make assumptions about sexual practices- ask questions to be able to make informed decisions about your patient's care. Open communication is critical to your provision of high quality health care.

Six important topics to talk about with all LGBT clients

- Mental Health (including **depression** and **anxiety** screening)
- Sexual Health (including **STD** and **HIV** screening)
- Substance Use (including **tobacco** and **alcohol**)
- Heart Health
- Fitness (including **diet** and **exercise**)
- Domestic Violence and Safety

Topics for Lesbians and Bisexual Women

- Breast Health
- Gynecological Health
- Bone Health
- HPV Prevention

Topics for Gay and Bisexual Men

- Prostate and Testicular Health
- Colon Health
- Anal Health
- Hepatitis Prevention

Topics for Trans Women

- Hormone Therapy
- Breast Health
- HPV Prevention
- Prostate Health

Topics for Trans Men

- Hormone Therapy
- Contraception and Pregnancy
- Pelvic and Chest/Breast Health

For more information from our coalition partners:

Mautner Project: Removing the Barriers
http://mautnerproject.org.bluenile.doceus.com/programs%5Fand%5Fservices/Healthcare%5FProvider%5FEducation/

Mautner Project: Tips for Culturally Competent Care
http://mautnerproject.org.bluenile.doceus.com/programs_and_services/healthcare_provider_education/151.cfm

Gay and Lesbian Medical Association: On-Line Medical Referrals
http://www.glma.org/programs/prp/index.shtml