

Concept Clearance: Gender and measurement

ACRWH: October 18, 2022

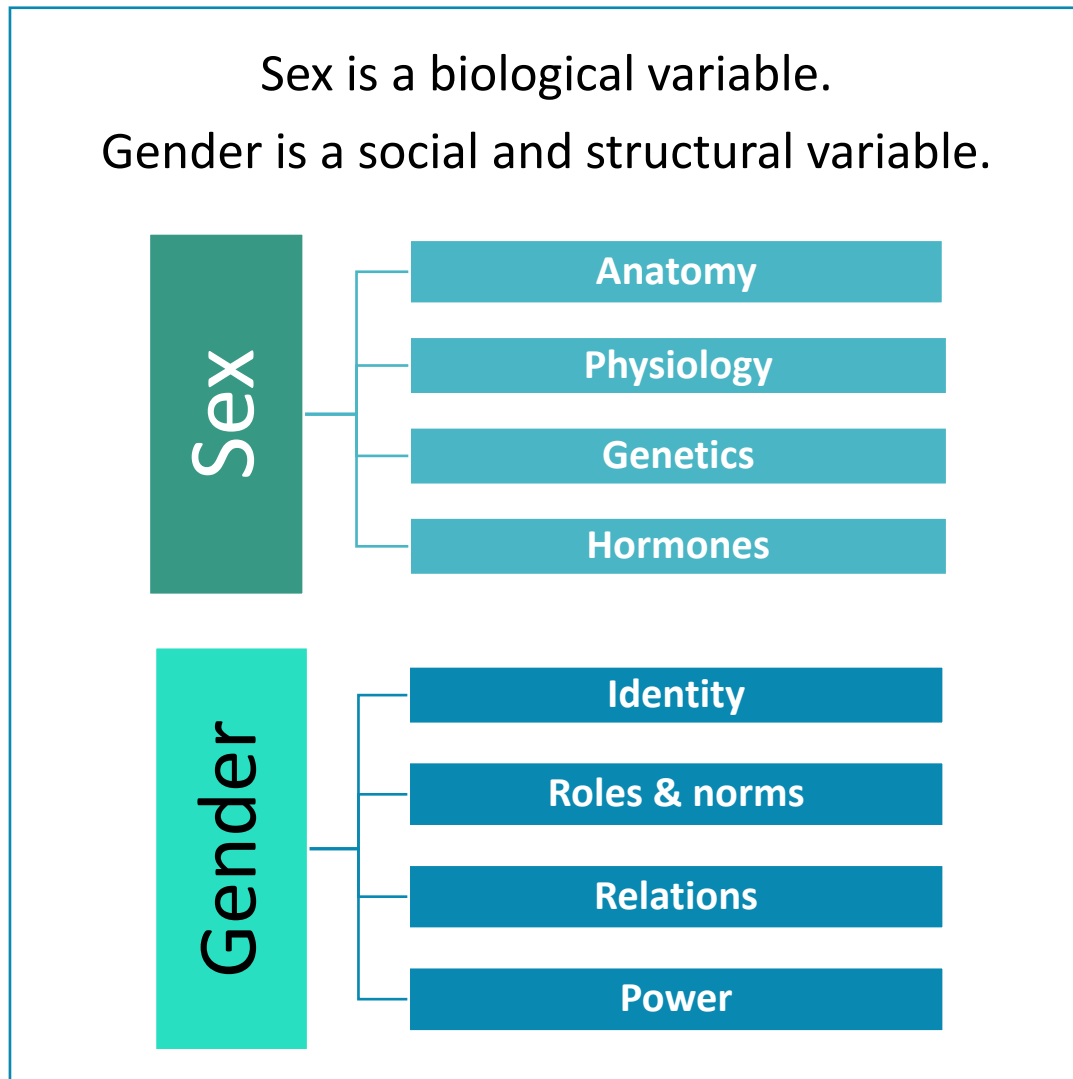


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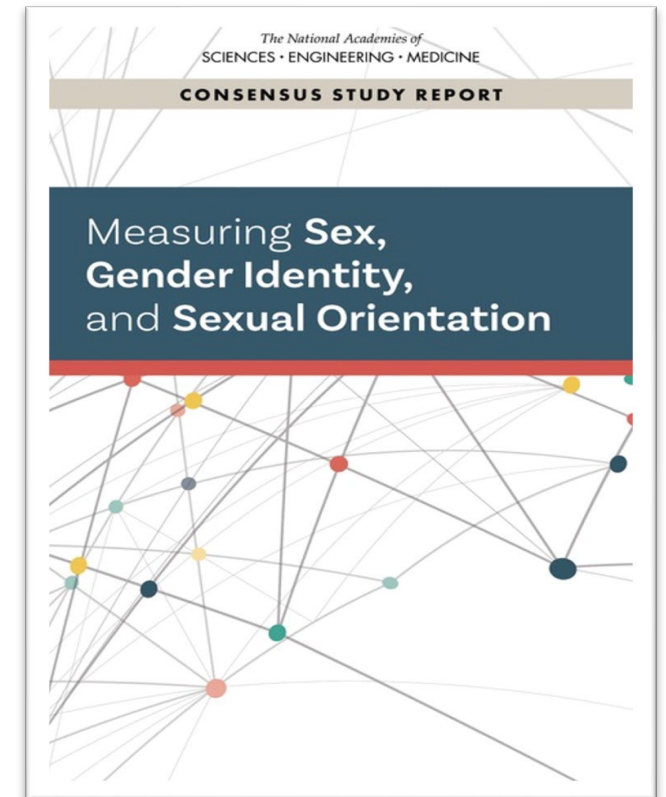
Biology,¹ society,² & policy³ influence the health of everyone



- Sex and gender are distinct concepts, but the terms are often used interchangeably, including in biomedical literature and popular culture.
- Imprecise language can cause ambiguity and confusion among scientists, policymakers, Government agencies, and general public.

2021 Report: Measuring Sex, Gender Identity, and Sexual Orientation

- NIH commissioned the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) to convene a panel of experts to review the existing knowledge base related to SGM-related measurement, make recommendations for specific measures, and provide guidance for their use
 - Lead ICO: Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office
 - 18 other ICO co-funders, including ORWH



Measuring gender identity

- Accurate definitions and appropriate terminology are essential to rigorous research
- Two-step method of data collection is widely utilized for collecting sex assigned at birth and current gender identity.

RECOMMENDATION 5: To improve the quality and inclusivity of the recommended two-step gender measure—sex assigned at birth and current gender—the National Institutes of Health should fund and conduct research on the following topics:

- Explicit tests of the use of terminology for sex (female/male) and gender (woman/man) for current gender responses, along with optimal answer option ordering, and the utility of a confirmation question. Testing should also confirm optimal ordering of the two-step components in both survey research and in other settings.

“In the absence of other evidence, the panel’s recommendation of female/male terminology [for current gender] is in keeping with response options that are used by the majority of current two-step measures.”

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. 2022. *Measuring Sex, Gender Identity, and Sexual Orientation*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/26424>.

Siskind RL, Andrasik M, Karuna ST, et al. Engaging Transgender People in NIH-Funded HIV/AIDS Clinical Trials Research. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr*. 2016;72 Suppl 3(Suppl 3):S243-S247. [doi:10.1097/QAI.0000000000001085](https://doi.org/10.1097/QAI.0000000000001085)

New concept: Gender & measurement

- Trans-NIH Strategic Plan for Women's Health Research Objective 2.2:
Develop and adapt reliable and valid measures relevant to the health of women
- Objective: support research testing gender terminology (e.g., woman, man, nonbinary) for measuring current gender identity as part of the two-step method of data collection (sex assigned at birth and current gender identity).
- Interest from SGMRO, NIA, NICHD, OBSSR

Strategic Goal 2

Methods

Develop methods and leverage data sources to consider sex and gender influences that enhance research for the health of women.

Gender and Health: Impacts of Structural Sexism, Gender Norms, Relational Power Dynamics, and Gender Inequities

October 26, 2022, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM EDT | *Virtual Only*

Register: <https://genderandhealth.vfairs.com>



Featured Plenary Speakers:



Nancy Krieger, Ph.D., *Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (HSPH)*

Dr. Krieger is an internationally recognized social epidemiologist, with a background in biochemistry, philosophy of science, and the history of public health, combined with over 35 years of activism linking issues involving social justice, science, and health.



Patricia Homan, Ph.D., M.A., *Florida State University (FSU)*

Dr. Homan's research focuses on developing theory and measurement for structural sexism, structural racism, and other forms of structural injustice and examining how these forces shape health.



Typhanye Vielka Dyer, Ph.D., M.P.H., *University of Maryland School of Public Health*

Dr. Vielka Dyer has over 20 years of research examining the influence of social psychological, behavioral, and structural factors on HIV and HIV-related outcomes in sexual minority men and women, and STIs in Black populations.

In partnership with NICHD, NIA, NIAID, NCI, NHLBI, NIDDK, NINDS, NIMH, NIDA, and OBSSR.



Thank you, and questions?