

Problem Based Learning Discussion: Ambulatory anesthetic management of gender affirmation surgery patients: who, what, where, why?

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Learning objectives:

- Participants will describe common gender affirmation surgeries done at ambulatory surgery centers.
- Participants will identify anesthetic concerns for patients undergoing gender affirmation surgeries.
- Participants will formulate an anesthetic plan for common ambulatory surgery center gender affirmation surgeries.

A 23 year old transgender male with a BMI of 38 presents for a bilateral mastectomy for gender change. Past medical history is significant for gender dysphoria, anxiety, depression, and THC use daily. Medications include testosterone and citalopram.

Who: What does “trans” even mean? Is the patient’s sex and gender male, female, none, both? How do you plan to address this patient, i.e., which pronouns do you use? Why does it matter?

What: What kinds of surgeries do transgender patients undergo?

Where: Which ones are generally done at ambulatory surgery centers?

Why: Why do transgender patients undergo gender affirmation surgeries?

What specific things need to be addressed in the patient history and physical?

Should pregnancy testing be done on transgender females?

What are the anesthetic considerations in transgender patients?

What is your anesthetic plan? What is your airway and induction plan? What is your postoperative pain control plan?

What are the ambulatory surgery center anesthetic considerations/pearls in transgender patients?

References

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