

# INITIAL ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

## CLIENT HISTORY

- Discuss the rationale for assessment period:
  - › Establish rapport
  - › Ensure optimal readiness
  - › Ensure client has all information they need to start hormone therapy
- General medical intake & medical history

## BASELINE DATA

- Vitals (incl. BP, Ht, Wt, Waist & Abdo circ.)
- Focused Physical Exam
- Blood work
- Health screening commensurate to age & risk profile

## CLIENT EDUCATION, READINESS AND SUPPORTS

- Allow client to articulate their transition goals
- Ensure client expresses reasonable expectations
  - › Client understands timeline of changes
  - › Client understands limitations of hormone therapy
- Discuss effects on fertility and options available for preservation
  - › Fertility may be **permanently** affected by hormone therapy.
- Discuss pregnancy risk and options for contraception & implement these if needed
- Discuss psychosocial readiness
  - › Ensure supports are in place to facilitate healthy adjustment
  - › Refer to psychological support/counselling if necessary
- Review potential costs (e.g. medication, hair removal, fertility)
- Discuss risks, side effects, potential benefits and expected changes (reversible vs. irreversible) associated with treatment and ensure client demonstrates understanding
- Ensure client possesses capacity to consent
- Review medication options/treatment routes
- Submit EAP form (for clients on ODB)

## RISK MANAGEMENT

- Ensure absence of absolute contraindications
- Optimally manage precautions
- Manage psychiatric co-morbidity, if present
- If smoker, advise smoking cessation counseling

## DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- Rule out other possible diagnosis (i.e. psychiatric disorders that could mimic gender dysphoria such as psychotic or dissociative disorders)
- Ensure client meets Criteria for Gender Dysphoria
- No evidence of intersex condition (e.g. ambiguous genitalia, abnormal baseline hormone profile)

## NEXT STEPS

- Choose initial hormone regimen
- Client signs Consent Form
- Discuss interest in Gender Affirming Surgery
- Offer support for changing client's sex designation on Government ID