

# Education for primary care providers on sexual healthcare for trans communities.

## A needs assessment.

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### Background

ASHM and ACON collaborated to develop and deliver an e-learning to address gaps in education for the sexual health sector identified in the *2018 Australian Trans and Gender Diverse Sexual Health Survey*. Each was responsible for undertaking a needs assessment to inform development and delivery.



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### Data collection

#### Healthcare provider survey administered by ASHM:

- Participants completed a self-administered survey between 22/06/2021-12/07/2021. Participants were healthcare providers residing in Australia over 18 (N=41).

#### Community survey administered by ACON:

- Participants completed a self-administered survey between 30/06/2021-12/07/2021. Participants were trans people residing in Australia over 18 (N=222).

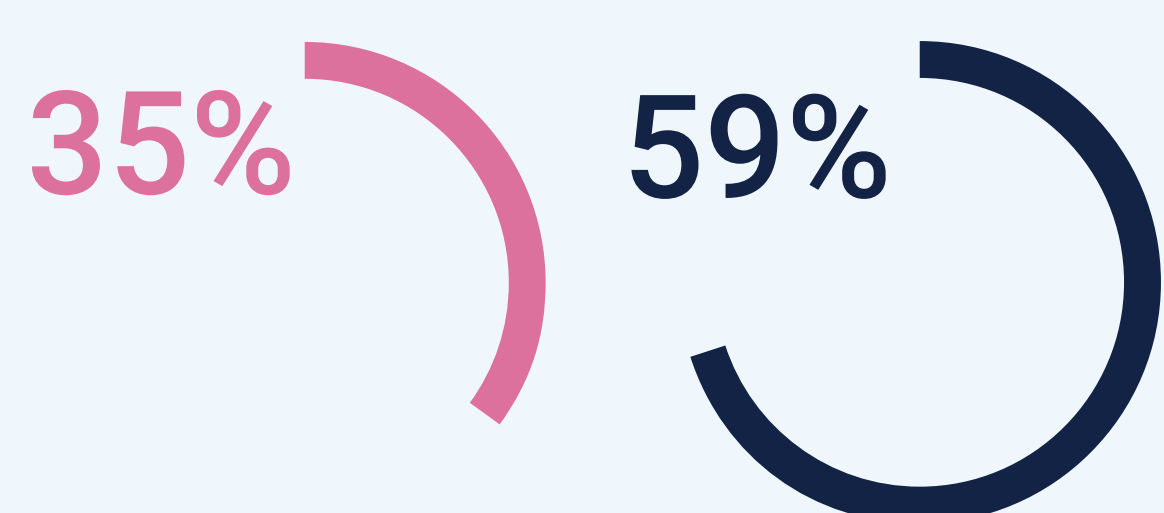
### Key Findings

#### Healthcare provider survey administered by ASHM:

##### Confidence:

- Average self-reported confidence was higher in supporting trans patients more broadly (mean=3.3, n=35) compared to Sistergirls and Brotherboys (mean=2.7, n=35).

##### Workplace, policies, and practices:



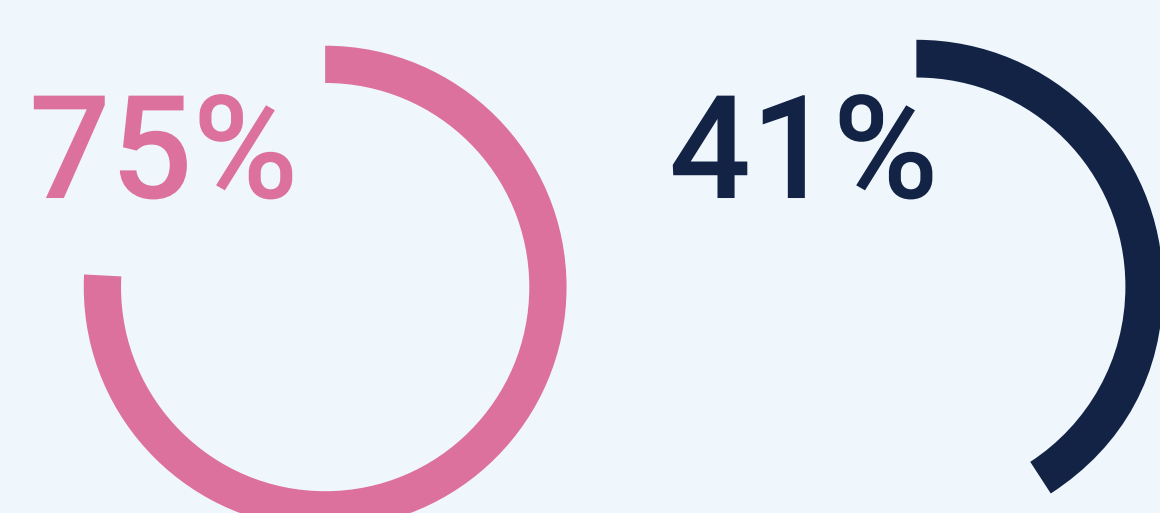
identified specific trans-inclusivity policies.

stated that their service had at least one practice or feature to be inclusive of trans clients.

##### Needs and preferences for further learning:

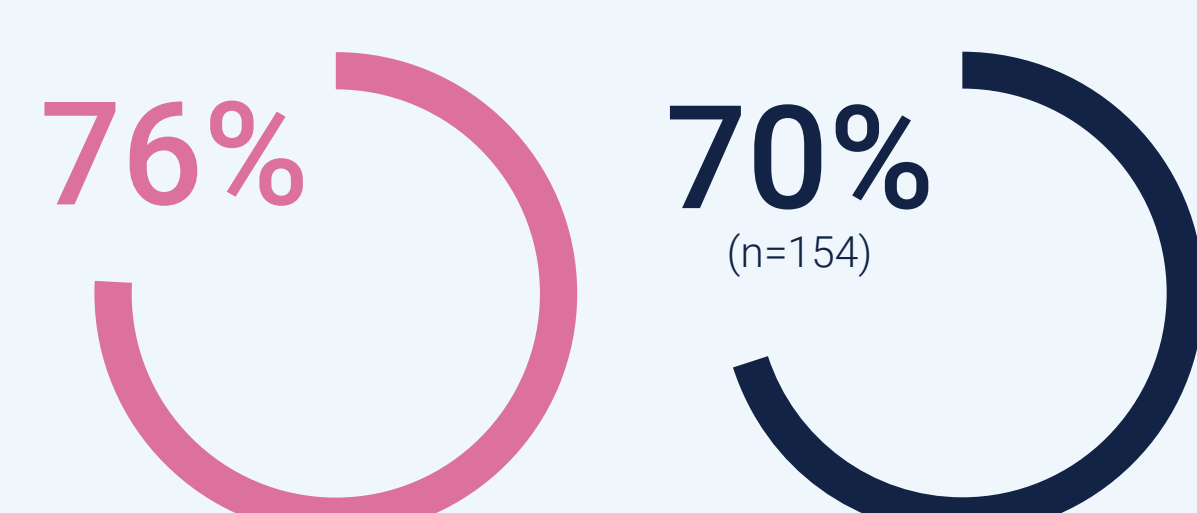
- Preferred learning modalities: online learning methods - self-directed (74%) and facilitated modules (64%). 52% preferred an online learning module to take 2 hours or less to complete.
- Topic preferences that scored the highest were 'Gender affirming care,' 'Trans affirming practice,' and 'Sexual health of Trans communities.'

#### Community survey administered by ACON:



had visited a health professional for sexual healthcare. 41% of regional respondents (n=33) reported seeing only a GP.

PARTICIPANTS RATED THEIR EXPERIENCES AT LGBTQ+ SPECIFIC SEXUAL HEALTH CLINICS THE HIGHEST (MEAN=4.3, N=53), AND HOSPITALS THE LOWEST (MEAN=2.3, N=6).



reported they had delayed or avoided seeking sexual healthcare because of past experiences of poor care.

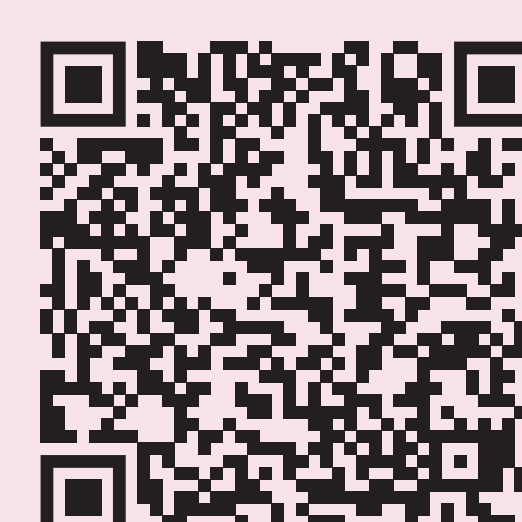
reported educating a health professional on trans healthcare.

### Conclusion and recommendations

- Continued development and delivery of the e-learning.
- Ongoing monitoring and evaluation to inform improvements and refinements.
- Focus on workforce capacity building to enhance knowledge and confidence in providing trans-affirming care, precisely the health needs of Brotherboys and Sistergirls.
- Focus on increasing awareness of workplace policies and procedures and the impact on health outcomes of the community.
- Further development of practice-based education. Tailored to support providers accessing local specialists, referral pathways and resources, specifically in regional and remote areas.
- Inclusion of trans communities in all guidelines and resources to address their specific health needs.
- Further research to understand the reasoning behind why communities are not accessing sexual health care by a health professional and alternative ways they are receiving this advice.

### Education we developed

- Trans And Gender Diverse Sexual Health Care e-Learning
- Advanced Gender Affirming Hormone Therapy (GAHT) online learning module
- Advanced Gender Affirming Hormone Therapy (GAHT) live facilitated online course



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