

Sex and Gender

**Arunrat Tangmunkongvorakul, PhD.
Research Institute for Health Sciences,
Chiang Mai University**

When talking about sex..

➤ What do you think of?

Outline of presentation

- Definitions on sex & gender, and relevant issues from health perspectives (international level)
- Topics of presentation based on Medical Competency Assessment Criteria for National License 2012 (เกณฑ์ความรู้ความสามารถในการประเมินเพื่อรับใบอนุญาตเป็นผู้ประกอบวิชาชีพเวชกรรม พ.ศ. 2555)
- Sharing experience from research studies on sex and gender related to health issues
- Not focus on theories
- Examination

Meaning of sex

"Sex" refers to the biological and physiological characteristics that define men and women.

(<http://www.who.int/gender/whatisgender/en/>)

► Biological sex, sex characteristics (chromosomes, gonads, sex hormones, or genitals)

This term also encompasses general behavior and sexual expression that refers to reproductive status and needs

► male, female, hermaphrodite, intersex

Some examples of sex characteristics:

- Women menstruate while men do not
- Men have testicles while women do not
- Women have developed breasts that are usually capable of lactating, while men have not
- Men generally have more massive bones than women

Meaning of Gender

"Gender" refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviours, activities, and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for men and women.
(<http://www.who.int/gender/whatisgender/en/>)

To put it another way:

"Male" and "female" are sex categories, while "masculine" and "feminine" are gender categories.

Some examples of gender characteristics:

- In the United States (and most other countries), women earn significantly less money than men for similar work
- In Viet Nam, many more men than women smoke, as female smoking has not traditionally been considered appropriate
- In Saudi Arabia men are allowed to drive cars while women are not
- In most of the world, women do more housework than men

Meaning of sexuality

- A central aspect of being human throughout life [which] encompasses sex, **gender identities** and roles, **sexual orientation**, **eroticism**, pleasure, **intimacy** and reproduction.
- Sexuality is experienced and expressed in **thoughts**, **fantasies**, desires, **beliefs**, attitudes, values, **behaviours**, practices, **roles** and relationships.
- While sexuality can include all of these dimensions, **not all of them are always experienced or expressed**.

(WHO working group, 2006)

Gender Equality VS Gender Equity

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- "**Gender equality** requires equal enjoyment by women and men of socially-valued goods, opportunities, resources and rewards." (equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of all people)

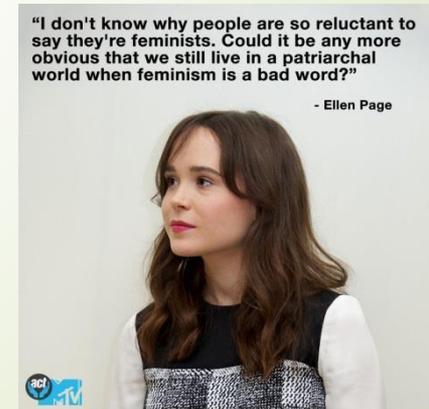


- "**Gender equity** is the process of being fair to women and men." (UNFPA)

(<http://web.unfpa.org/gender/resources3.htm#2>)

Gender discrimination and social construction of gender

- Patriarchy
- Feminism
- Masculine
- Feminine

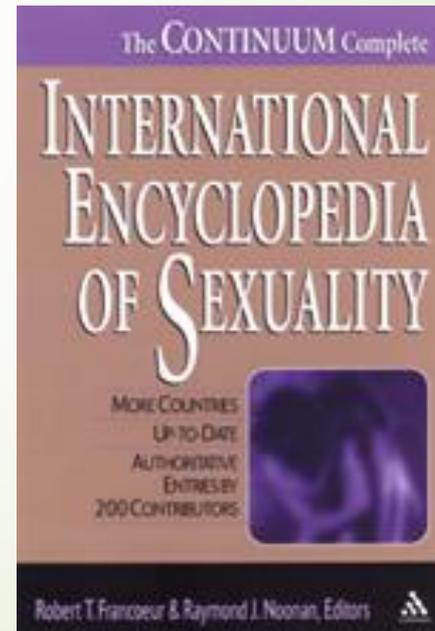


Sex and gender in Thai society

Encyclopedia of sexuality – Thailand

(<http://www.kinseyinstitute.org/ccies/>)

By Kittiwut Jod Taywaditep, and co-authors



Sex and gender in Thai society

- The Ideal Gender Images: Kulasatrii and Chaai Chaatrii
- Romance, Love, and Marriage
- A Double Standard for Sexuality and Gender Stereotypes
- Gender in Everyday Life: Social Manners, the Touch Taboo, and Female Pollution
- Religious Factors
- Ethnic Differences and Social Structure (socio-economic status)
- **Evolution of sexuality in Thai society (Pre-AIDS era, Post-AIDS era)**

Sex and gender in Thai society

Research study: Gender double standards in young people attending sexual health services in Northern Thailand

When I have sexual problems I can consult my father. He told me that he lost his virginity when he was in a second year in college. He told me 'just use a condom', but sometimes, I do not. (Male, aged 18)

I used to tell my mother when I had irregular menstrual periods. She wanted to take me to the hospital. I said to her that I did not want to go. I told her I was afraid, because I had never (had sexual experience) before. Actually, I was worried that the doctor would do a vaginal examination on me [and reveal sexual activity status]. She did not know I had sex, and she will never know. (Female aged 18)

Gender and Health

- ▶ Link between gender and health
 - Example: Teenage pregnancy



- ❖ Gendered determinants included norms, expectations, social roles, vulnerabilities, health risks, health-promotion, health care seeking behaviors, health system, etc.
- ❖ They are among the most important **social determinants of health** inequities.

Gender and Health

- Gender bias in medical education
- Gender bias in health care setting
- Gender sensitivity among general practitioners
- Gender equality in medical workforce (i.e. gastroenterology and hepatology) is compelling, yet progress has been slow.



Research study: Providers' Perspectives in Addressing Adolescents' Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs in Northern Thailand

When we gave them the knowledge, they did not respond to anything. They kept quiet, and had no interaction at all. So, we could not know whether they understood what we tried to explain to them. We have so much work to do in the clinic, and sometimes it made us feel irritated about dealing with them. A staff member of the Labour Room complained that some girls would jump out of the bed when she did the PV (vaginal exam) on them. (Nurse, hospital, female, 38 years)

Some girls did not want to tell us the truth. They had bleeding by vagina, and told us that they had an accident. But, when we had an exam, we found the pieces of inserting tablets (for induced abortion) left in the vaginal canal. (Doctor, hospital, male, 37 years)

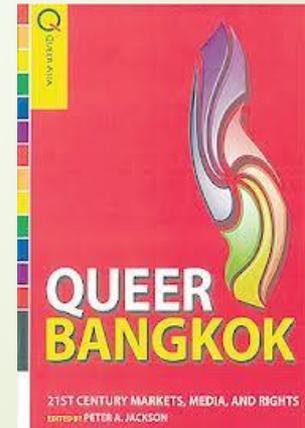
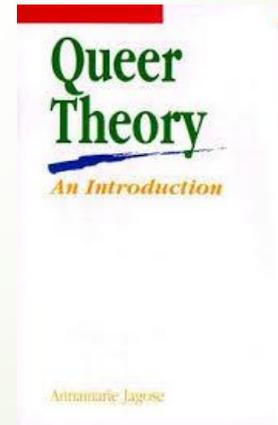
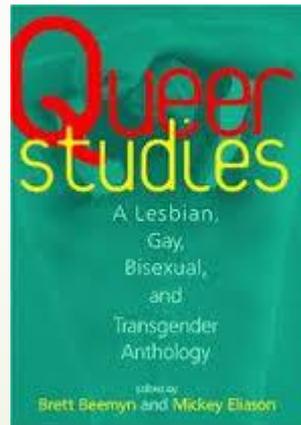
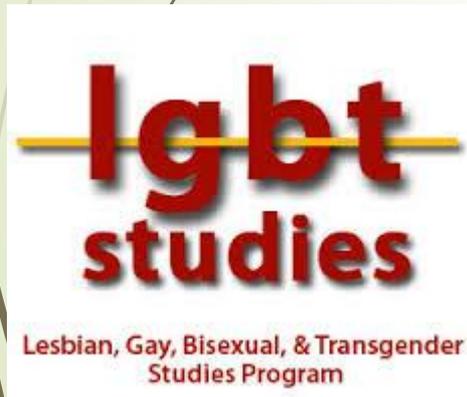


Sexual/Gender Diversity



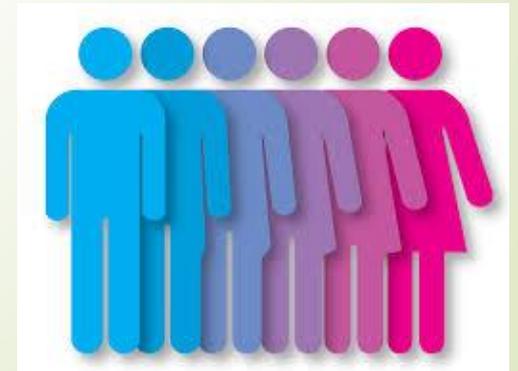
Sexual/Gender Diversity

- Sexual identity (heterosexual, homosexual or bisexual)
- Gender identity (man, woman, lesbian, gay, transgender, etc.)
- Queer studies

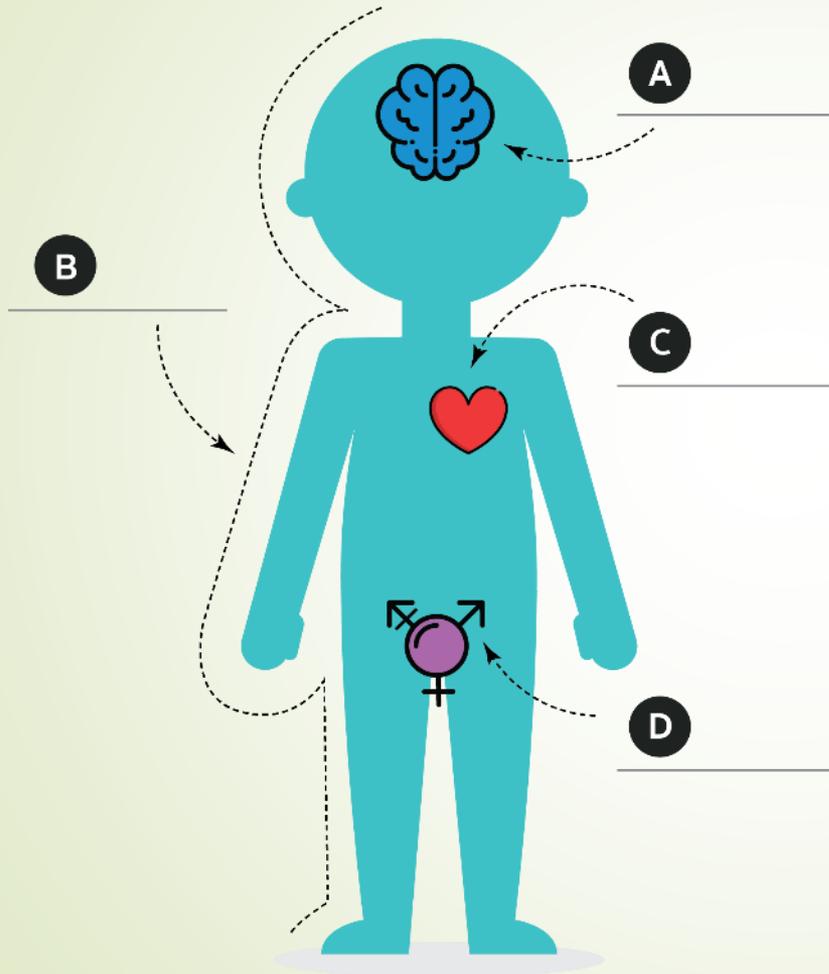


Sexual/Gender Diversity

- ▶ Sexual Diversity Studies, or LGBT studies is the study of issues relating to sexual orientation and gender identity usually focusing on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, and intersex people and cultures. (The acronym may be written LGBT, LGBTQ, LGBTQI, GLBT, etc.)
- ▶ Gender fluidity

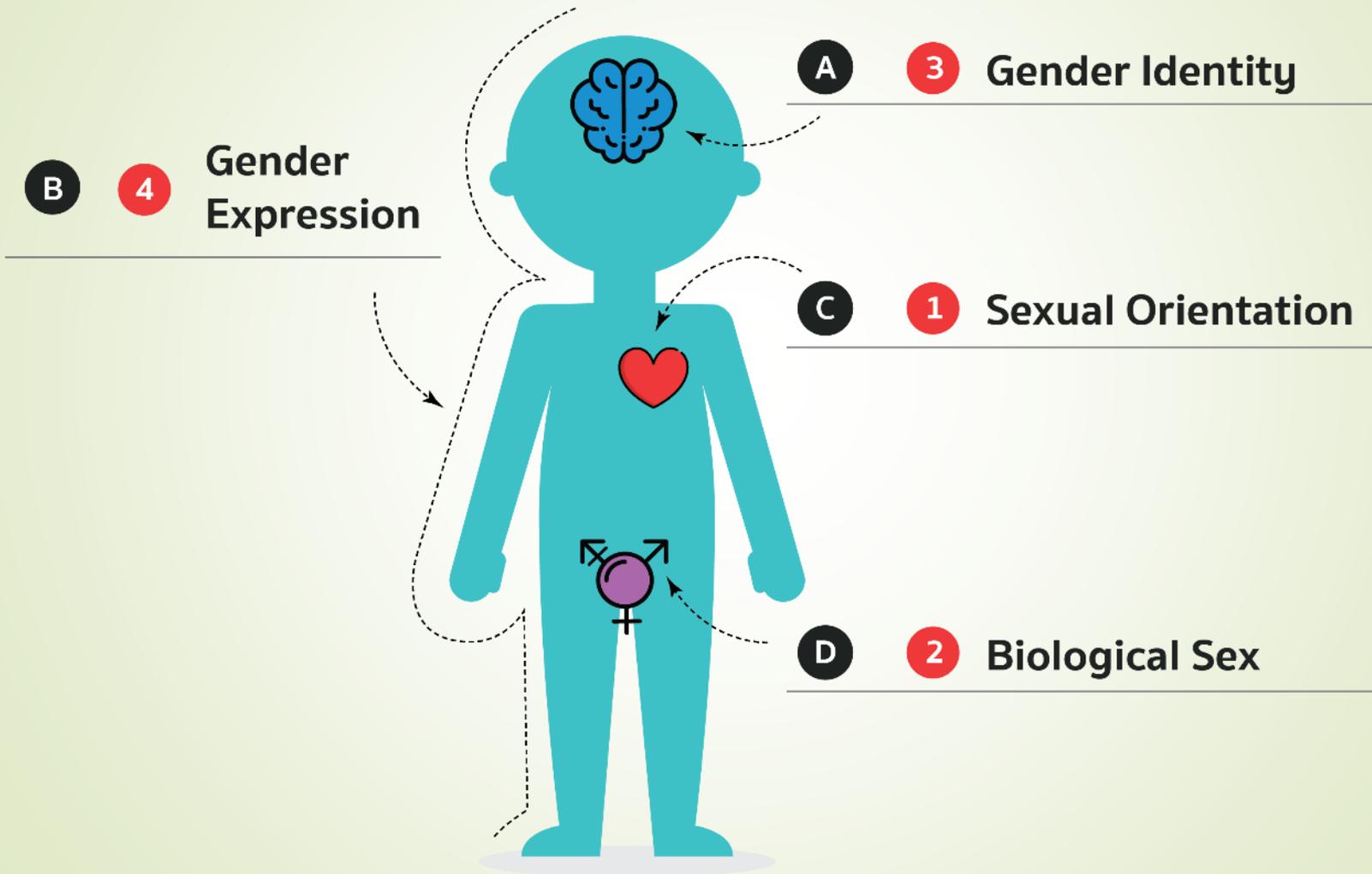


THE GENDER ANATOMY

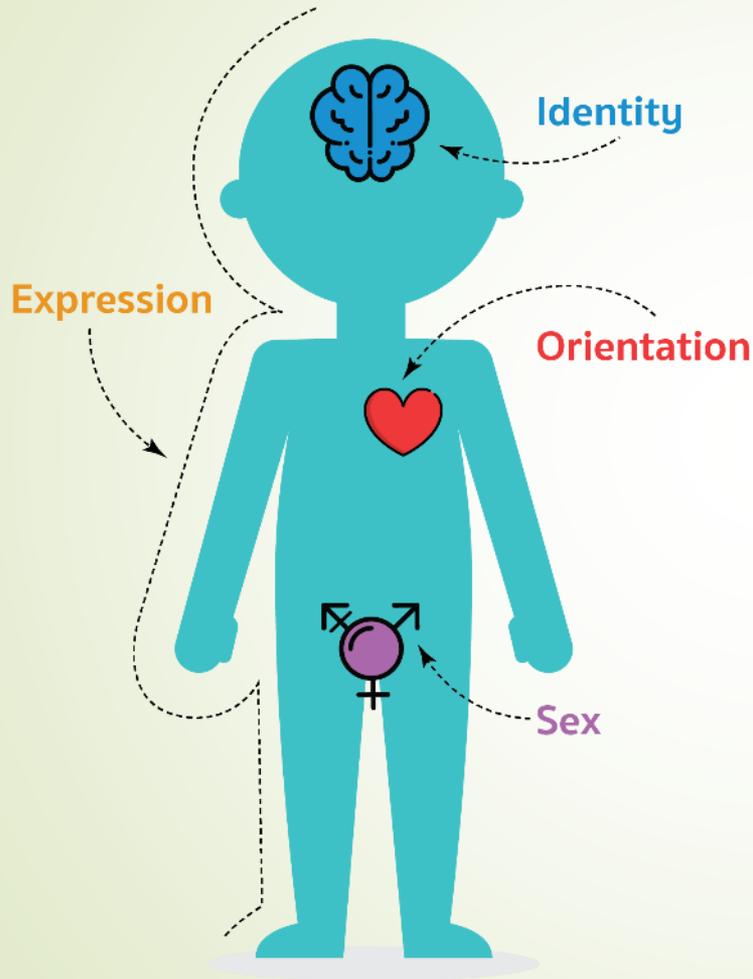


- 1 Sexual Orientation
- 2 Biological Sex
- 3 Gender Identity
- 4 Gender Expression

THE GENDER ANATOMY



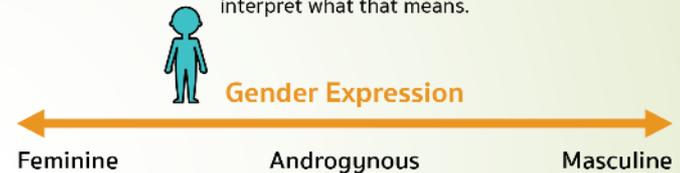
THE GENDER ANATOMY



Source: www.itspronouncedmetrosexual.com



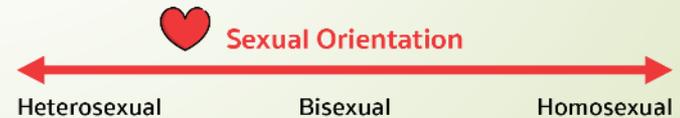
Gender identity is how you, in your head, think about yourself. It's the chemistry that composes you (e.g., hormonal levels) and how you interpret what that means.



Gender expression is how you demonstrate your gender (based on traditional gender roles) through the ways you act, dress, behave, and interact.



Biological sex refers to the objectively measurable organs, hormones, and chromosomes. Female = vagina, ovaries, XX chromosomes; male = penis, testes, XY chromosomes; intersex = a combination of the two.

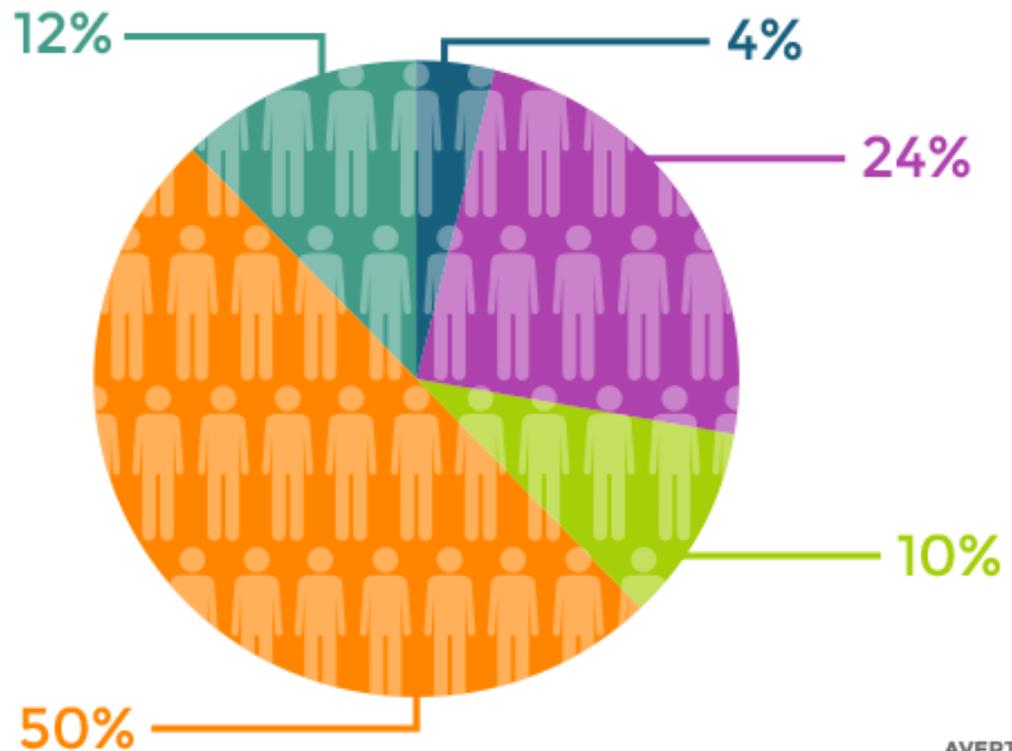
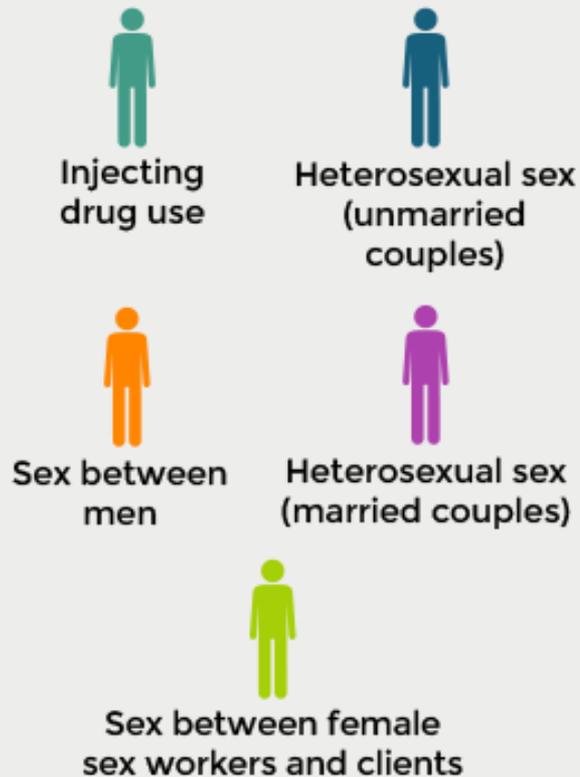


Sexual orientation is who you are physically, spiritually, and emotionally attracted to, based on their sex/gender in relation to your own.

Sexual Diversity and Sexual Health

THAILAND

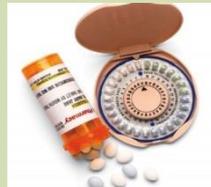
Projected new HIV infections by mode of transmission 2015-2019



AVERT.org
Source: Thailand National AIDS Committee (2014)

HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

- ในรูปแบบยากิน เพื่อนำยาเข้าสู่กระแสเลือดและเนื้อเยื่อต่างๆ ก่อนสัมผัสเชื้อเอชไอวี
- ทีโนโฟเวียร์ (TDF) กินวันละ 1 ครั้ง
- iPrEX: การศึกษาในชายรักชายและ transgender 2499 คน ใน 6 ประเทศ
 - TDF/FTC ป้องกันการติดเชื้อได้ 44%
 - ประสิทธิภาพได้ 92% ถ้ากินยาสม่ำเสมอ >4 เม็ดต่อสัปดาห์



PrEP:
HIV PREVENTION
WITH JUST
1 PILL A DAY

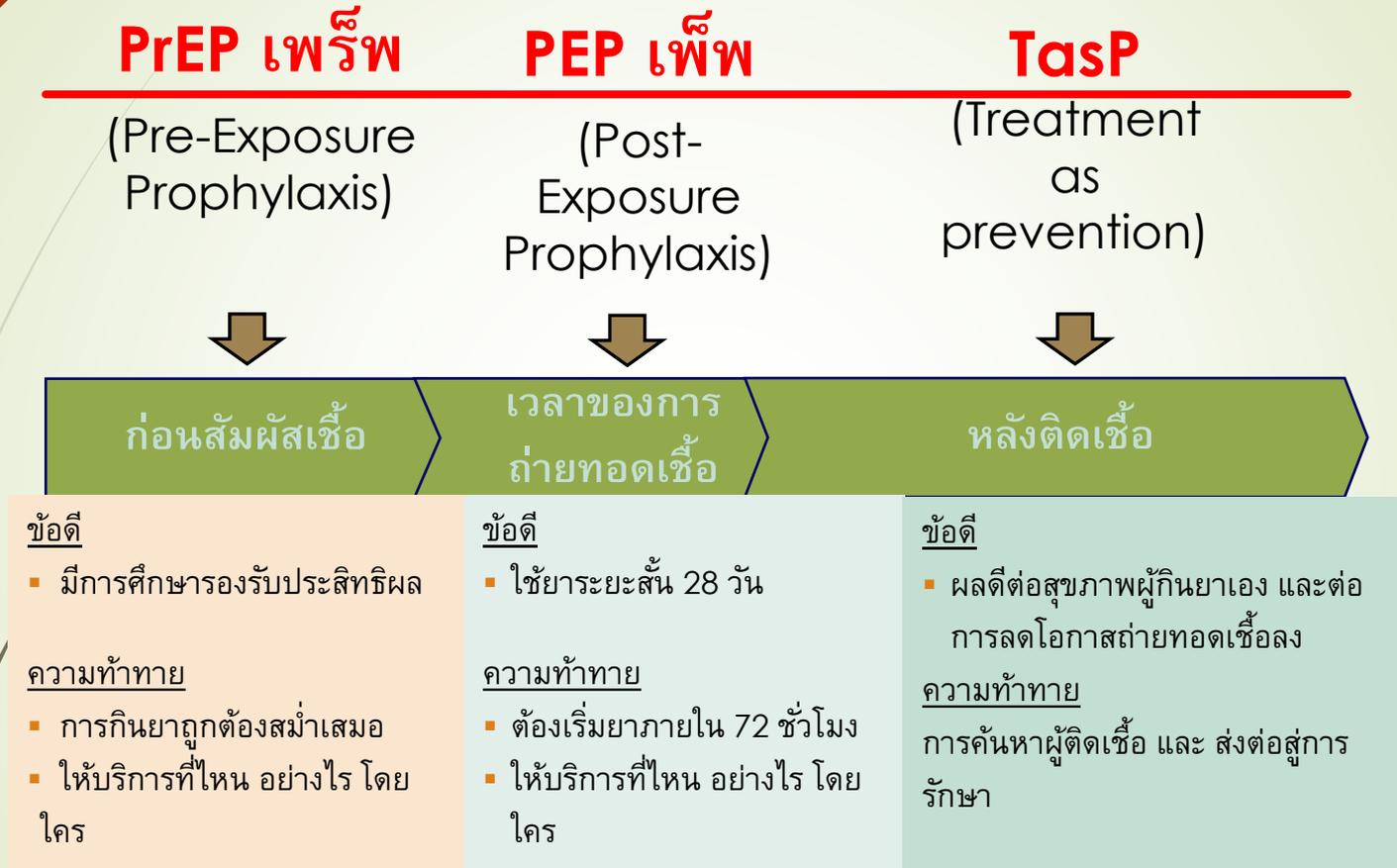


Grant RM, et al. NEJM 2010, 363:2587-2599.



Drug for HIV prevention

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Source: เอกสารประกอบการสอน รัต พญู ชันยวีร์ ภูชนกิจ

Transgender Women in Thailand: Population Size Estimation and HIV



* KP Size Estimation Draft, Thai MOPH, 2015, ** Thailand AIDS Response Progress Report, Thailand's National AIDS Management Center, MOPH, 2016
*** Community-Led Test and Treat Database, May 2015-June 2017

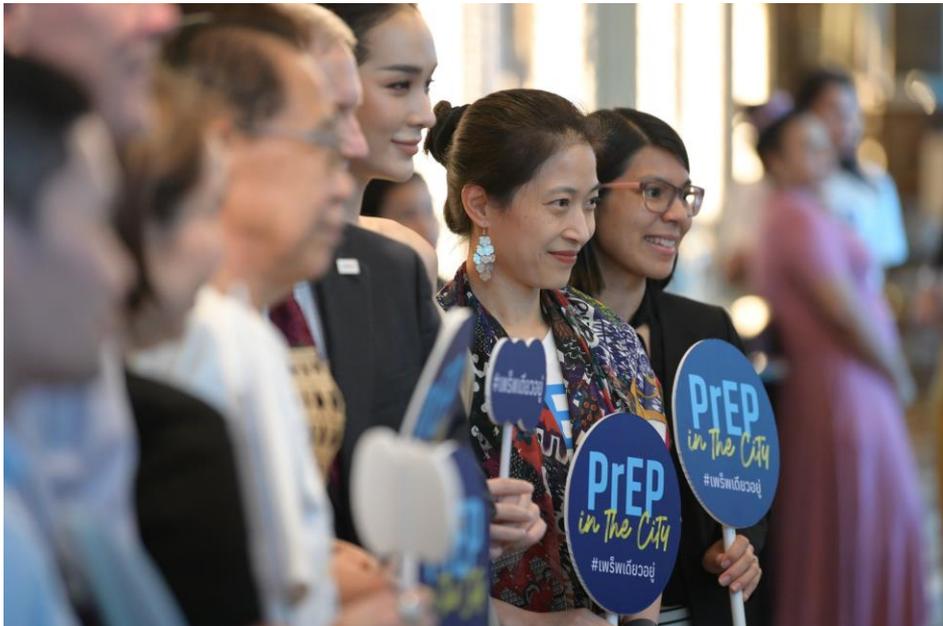
Transgender social media influencers in increasing HIV and PrEP uptake

Source: PREVENTION | Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre



IHRI - Institute of HIV Research and Innovation

IHRI is a leader in research and innovation concerning prevention of HIV and other health priorities, based on equity and community partnership, in order to advocate for the health-for-all policy changes.



Source: <http://www.ihri.org/>

MPLUS CLINIC



สแกนจกัควัดรจวองบ่ลนั



พืขณูโลก

เป็ดทุควบ พุกัศบดื เวลา 13.00 - 20.00 น.

ให้ค้ำปรืกษสขภททวพศ
ตรวจอชอวื ซัฟลืส ฟรี บรืการยท PrEP
สัมตอขสัการรืกษทด้วยยทต่านวอริส
แจกคณยวอนานบย และสสารหลอ์ลืนฟรี

เซียงใหม่ เซียงราย

เป็ด จันทรื - ศุกรื เวลา 13.00 - 20.00 น.

ให้ค้ำปรืกษสขภททวพศ
ตรวจอชอวื ซัฟลืส CD4 ฟรี บรืการยท PrEP
สัมตอขสัการรืกษทด้วยยทต่านวอริส
ตรวจว็ดระดับชอรืบมสำหรับคนขบพศ
แจกคณยวอนานบย และสสารหลอ์ลืนฟรี



สอบถามรายลระเอดเพิ่มเตบ

เซียงใหม่ 086-9194840 เซียงราย 088-2667560 พืขณูโลก 097-1462723



Stigma and Discrimination in

31 Healthcare Settings



Never received advice and counseling from healthcare providers on gender affirming care and hormone use



Had **negative** experience from healthcare providers



Percentage of health care workers who thought HIV-positive TGW should be ashamed

Sources:

*Thai Transgender Alliance and Transgender Europe, 2015

** Report of a pilot: Developing Tools and Methods to Measure HIV-related Stigma and Discrimination in Health Care Settings in Thailand and; the HIV Stigma and Discrimination Survey Guidelines and Procedures Manual, International Health Policy Program, National AIDS Management Center (NAMC) Thailand, Ministry of Public Health (November 2014).

Gender sensitivity

- Trust/Respect
- Consistency
- Accessibility
- Flexibility
- Time availability
- Confidentiality



Human rights

- Law/Regulations
- Recommendations to prevent acts of violence against people of diverse sexual orientation
 - Freedom of expression can be exercised safely
 - Encourage to report violence against LGBT people
 - Assist legal recognition of preferred gender



Comments & Questions