

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORT LETTER REQUIREMENTS FOR REFERRAL FOR HYSTERECTOMY AT BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER

Patients need support letters from two licensed Behavioral Health (BH) professionals. Letters must meet the requirements of the health insurance carrier as well as those listed below. Where these requirements differ, the more stringent requirements must be followed and documented in the letters. Letters should include the following information:

- The patient's general identifying characteristics and information
- The BH clinician's experience with treating transgender patients
- The duration of the BH provider's professional relationship with the patient, including the type and duration of evaluation and therapy or counseling to date
- Results of any psychosocial assessment including any diagnoses
- A description of how the criteria for surgery have been met
- Identify support systems, any progress made in transition socially or medically
- Any BH diagnosis or concerns and how they are being managed
- Contact information for the BH provider and a statement that this provider is available for coordination of care.

Please note that for BH support letters, the first referral must be from the patient's psychotherapist and the second referral may be from a person who has had only an evaluative role of the patient.

**Support letters should be addressed to Dr. Shannon Bell.**

Consult requests may be sent to us via email, fax or mail:

EMAIL: [transgender.center@bmc.org](mailto:transgender.center@bmc.org)

FAX: 617-414-7158

Cover letter for fax to: Center for Transgender Medicine and Surgery

MAIL: Boston Medical Center  
Center for Transgender Medicine and Surgery  
Preston Building, 3rd Floor, Room 3031  
732 Harrison Ave, Boston, 02118

You may also download a copy of this guideline from our website at: [www.bmc.org/center-transgender-medicine-and-surgery](http://www.bmc.org/center-transgender-medicine-and-surgery)

Please don't hesitate to contact us with questions.

Sincerely,  
*The BMC Transgender Center for Medicine and Surgery Team*

Phone: 617-638-1833

Email: [transgender.center@bmc.org](mailto:transgender.center@bmc.org)



Center for Transgender  
Medicine and Surgery