

Title: Gender in Mental Health Policies

Summary: Differences in gender, sex, and sexual orientation are crucial factors that dictate specific mental health needs and thus require targeted assessment and interventions. Our goal was to determine the extent to which global mental health-related policies acknowledge and address these differences. The WHO MiNDbank is an international database of resources covering mental health, neurological diseases, substance abuse, and self-harm-related global policies. Over 1100 documents were reviewed to determine how many acknowledged the specific needs of populations identifying as different genders, sexes, and sexual orientations and catered specific solutions for the same.

Research Aims: The main aims were

- a. Assess the extent to which global mental health policies acknowledge the different health needs of people of different genders, sexes, and sexual orientations.
- b. Determine the proportion of policies that provide specific solutions to deal with the same

Advocacy Aims:

Global advocacy to acknowledge and quantify the differences in mental health needs of various populations and to devise ways to cater to them.

Topic Tags: mental health, gender, sex, sexuality, policy review, global mental health policy

SDG Tags: Good health and wellbeing

Scope: Global

Sponsors: None

ASAR Members: Sweta Dubey, Divya Shrinivas, Madhurima Vuddumarry, Kiran Kunthia, Shirish Rao, Radhikaa Sharma, Madhav Bansal, Ashmeet Sachdev, Avanti Andhale, Anushka Jindal, Pradeeksha Mukuntharaj, Siddhesh Zadey

Partners: None

Start Date: April 2021

(Expected) End Date: 2023

Conferences:

1. Poster presentation at CUGH 2022 (virtual) - Attention towards Sex and Gender Based Differences and Disparities in Mental Health Needs: Policy Analysis of 109 Countries
2. Poster Presentation at CMC MAC 2023 - Attention towards Sex and Gender-based Differences and Disparities in Mental Health Needs: Policy Analysis of 126 Countries
3. Oral Presentation at IndOx 2023 (virtual) - Sex differences in suicide and self-harm burden and policy attention to them: A global analysis of 204 countries and territories
4. Oral Presentation at International Association for Suicide Prevention World Congress 2023 (virtual) - Sex differences in suicide and self-harm burden and policy attention to them: A global analysis of 204 countries and territories

5. Oral Presentation at APHA's Annual Meeting and Expo 2022, Boston, USA -
Prioritization of Sex, Gender and Sexuality-based Differences in Mental Health Needs in
the United States of America: Policy Analysis.