

Trans clients engage us and our practices by way of multiple contexts and domains:

Personal Competency:

What do I know about transgender lives, people, communities, experiences? What assumptions or anxieties do I carry? How do I take responsibility for my own learning and growth in this area?

Interpersonal Competency:

How do I use gendered language and naming to ensure that my clients are safe and supported? In what ways can I hold space for my clients to name, explain, and grow within their identities?

Clinical Competency:

How aware am I of trans-focused research, standards of care, diagnostic criteria, and integrative approaches to client care? How current is my clinical knowledge? How reliable are its sources?

Setting & Infrastructure:

What is the context of my practice? Will clients who are trans or gender non-conforming feel safe in my city? My building? My waiting area and restrooms? What modes of transportation allow access to my location?



Intake & Documentation:

How do social expectations relative to sex and gender shape intake and client file documents? Are my clients able to effectively communicate who they are and what they need, with the questions and response options I offer them?

Support Staff & Colleagues:

Do office policies facilitate the inclusion and safety of trans clients? How competent are others in the office, relative to trans communities?

Collaborating Agencies:

Can trans clients expect the same level of care as our other clients, when referred for medication? For crisis management or inpatient treatment? Will concerns relative to child custody or client safety be handled fairly, and in trans-affirming contexts?