NIH FY 2021-2025
Sexual & Gender Minority Research
Strategic Plan

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Acknowledgements

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Overview of Presentation

• Background
• Strategic Planning Process
• NIH FY 2021–2025 SGM Research Strategic Plan
  • Scientific Themes & Research Opportunities
  • Operational Goal Areas
  • Management & Accountability
• Q&A
Background
NIH Definition of SGM

“Sexual and gender minority (SGM) populations include, but are not limited to, individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, and/or intersex. Individuals with same-sex or -gender attractions or behaviors and those with a difference in sex development are also included. These populations also encompass those who do not self-identify with one of these terms but whose sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or reproductive development is characterized by non-binary constructs of sexual orientation, gender, and/or sex.”

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Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office (SGMRO) – What We Do

- **Coordinate** SGM health research activities across NIH
- **Represent** NIH at conferences and events focused on SGM research
- **Serve** as a resource for the extramural and NIH communities about SGM-related research activities
- **Connect** extramural researchers with key NIH contacts
- **Convene** workshops to inform priority setting and research activities
- **Collaborate** with NIH ICOs on the development of SGM health research reports
- **Manage** information dissemination related to SGM research
- **Leverage** resources and develop initiatives to support SGM health research
NIH SGM-Related Accomplishments

• Expansion of the SGMRO
• Increase in number of SGM-related projects funded by the NIH
• SGMs as a health disparity population for NIH research
• SGM Health Research Regional Workshops
• Scientific workshops
• SGM Investigator Awards Program
• SGMRO Administrative Supplements Program
• Expansion of SGM data collection efforts at the NIH
• Publication of SGM-specific NOSIs and FOAs
Strategic Plan Input

- Targeted Stakeholders at NIH
- Council of Councils SGM Research Working Group
- NIH SGM Research Coordinating Committee
- Public (RFI and Listening Session)
- DPCPSI Leadership
- Institute, Center, and Offices
- NIH Leadership
- Council of Councils
Strategic Plan Timeline

2019
- Jun: Draft strategic planning survey with SGM RCC
- Jul: Send out survey (Internal to NIH) (25 days)
- Aug: Analyze survey responses
- Sep: Draft scientific themes & operational goals with SGM RWG
- Oct: Refine scientific themes & operational goals with SGM RCC
- Nov: Develop and release RFI on drafted scientific themes & operational goals for public comment

2020
- Jan: Develop and release RFI on drafted scientific themes & operational goals for public comment
- Feb: Analyze and incorporate RFI comments
- Mar: Draft strategic plan for FY 2021–2025
- Apr: Solicit Comments from SGM RCC, SGM RWG, and DPCPSI and ICO leadership
- May: Solicit feedback from Council of Councils
- Jun: Obtain NIH leadership approval for the Strategic Plan
- Jul: Officially release FY 2021–2025 Strategic Plan
NIH FY 2021—2025 SGM Research Strategic Plan
Overview of the Strategic Plan

• Overarching Considerations
• Scientific Themes & Research Opportunities
• Operational Strategic Goal Areas
• Management & Accountability
Overarching Considerations

- Intersectionality
- Life Situations
- Aging
- SGM Subpopulations
- Relevant Research Strategies
Scientific Themes & Research Opportunities
Scientific Theme 1

Clinical Research

• Clinical trial recruitment
• Biobank or repository of tissue samples
• Outcomes related to various Differences in Sex Development (DSD) conditions/Intersex
• Sexual and reproductive care, reproductive aging, and pregnancy outcomes
Scientific Theme 2
Social & Behavioral Research

- Health services research
- Clinical education
- Stigma and discrimination
- Violence (includes sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and other)

- Mental health
- Suicide risk and prevention
- Substance use
- Coming out process
- Social support/networks
- Resilience
Scientific Theme 3
Research in Chronic Diseases & Comorbidities

- Alzheimer’s disease & related dementias (ADRD)
- Cancer
- Diabetes
- Heart disease
- HIV/AIDS
- Infectious diseases (STIs, HCV)
- Obesity
Scientific Theme 4

Methods & Measurement Research

• Development of novel measures and evaluation of existing measures
• Standardization of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI), and intersex status questions
Operational Strategic Goal Areas
Operational Goal 1

Advance rigorous research on the health of SGM populations in both the extramural and intramural research communities

- Develop scientific workshops to identify research opportunities
- Encourage NIH Institute, Centers, and Offices (ICOs) to set SGM health-specific and relevant research as a priority
- Expand awareness of SGM-relevant research initiatives at the NIH
- Increase grant support for SGM health-specific research
Operational Goal 2

Expand SGM health research by fostering partnerships and collaborations with a strategic array of internal and external stakeholders

• Increase communications and training with ICOs and external stakeholders
• Increase SGM expertise in NIH review panels and study sections
• Encourage cultural competency training opportunities on the specific characteristics of SGM health research to NIH-funded extramural and intramural clinical trainees and researchers
Operational Goal 3

Foster a highly skilled and diverse workforce in SGM health research

- Develop resources and tools related to SGM health research for internal and external stakeholders
- Conduct regional workshops focused on SGM health research
- Develop a grant mechanism to support institutional training efforts
- Encourage recruitment and retention of SGM researchers in the biomedical workforce
- Collaborate with NIH training and workforce offices on SGM diversity issues to address the NIH Workplace Climate and Harassment Survey results concerning SGM populations to create a more welcoming environment
Operational Goal 4

Encourage data collection related to SGM populations in research and the biomedical research workforce

- Encourage expansion of SOGI data collection and subsequent analyses in health care and related settings through such mechanisms as surveys, national data sets, and administrative data collection
- Leverage existing data sets by engaging with ICOs and external organizations to collect SOGI data
- Enhance SOGI-related data resources and data sharing, ensuring data privacy and security
Management & Accountability for the Strategic Plan
Management & Accountability

• *SGM Research Portfolio Analysis*
• *SGMRO Annual Report*
• Mid-course review by the SGM Research Working Group
• SGM health research listening sessions
• Presentations on current SGM health research and related developments at the NIH
Thank You!