



Trans voices

Testimonials in support of
gender-affirming care





Intro

Trans healthcare is often the subject of debate by those outside of the trans community. We regularly hear comment from those who feel they have a say in how and to what degree trans people should be able to access care, even though they are not personally impacted.

At GenderGP we believe that what truly matters are the voices of the community, those who are either directly impacted because they are trans, or those who are indirectly affected, because a loved one, friend or colleague is trans and they want to lend their support.

In the lead up to the hearing of Dr Helen Webberley, founder of GenderGP, we reached out to the community to gather these first hand accounts of the difference that our approach to gender affirming care has made.

Here we amplify those voices, so that they can be heard.

GenderGP x

Claire

We contacted GenderGP ran by Dr Webberly for information about the support that they offer. We were given lots of really useful information and links. They gave time for us to look at the options and checked many times to ensure that both my daughter and us, her parents understood what transitioning would entail. When she was ready, she had to have counselling through GenderGP to ensure that she knew what to expect and was only started once GenderGP were confident that we understood the process.

Without GenderGP help I am sure my daughter would not even be here and am extremely grateful to Dr Webberly for holding tight and continuing her great work.

Faith

I was going to say, ""I don't know what I would have done without GenderGP being there to offer support, guidance and safely monitor my medical transition." but actually, I know exactly what I would have done - I would have turned to the trans DIY community and figured out some way of importing/accessing the hormone replacement therapy drugs myself, because there is no way I can wait 4+ years for healthcare from the NHS.

GenderGP have helped me with a wide variety of services:

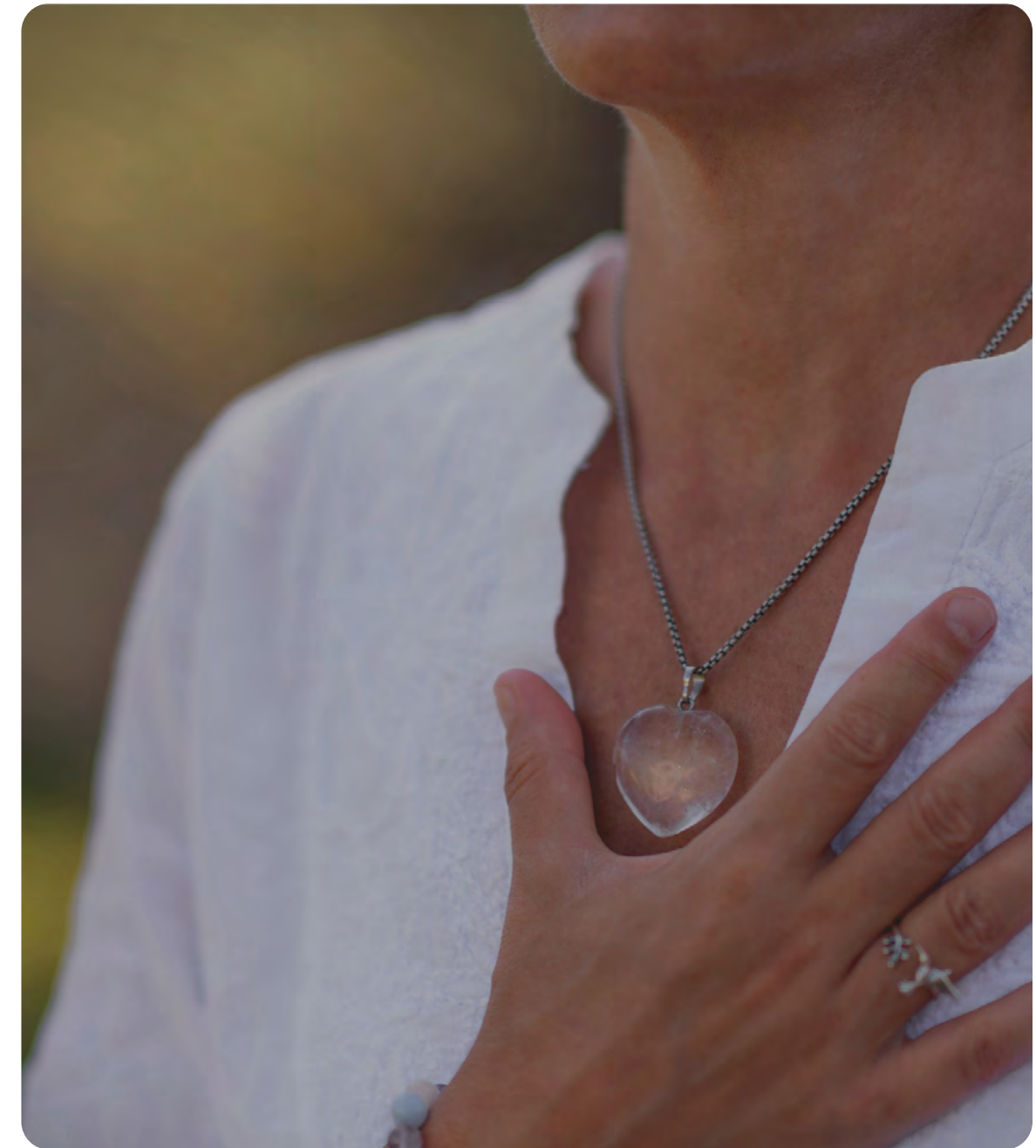
- Trained therapists, who have listened to me and helped me understand my own thoughts and feelings.
- Doctors who understand endocrinology and trans people, and have helped me by prescribing the drugs I needed in a regulated and safe manner, with suitably frequent blood tests, to ensure there are no issues.

I cannot emphasize enough just how important it is to have an organisation like GenderGP, who treat transgender people AS PEOPLE, listen to us, and want to actually help us.

Anon

Trans lives are important and valid and we deserve to live as ourselves authentically without fear. Enough of the transphobia, the fear mongering, the violence and the injustice. Trans people are people and we deserve to LIVE, not just to survive. Trans healthcare in the UK is NOT good enough. People will die if something isn't done. GenderGP provides an answer for many people, but even they can't help everyone. Many trans people still can't afford to pay for their healthcare, many trans people have no support and especially if they're underaged they can't do anything but suffer. Trans healthcare needs to change across the UK.

Supporting GenderGP is one step in the right direction,
but the NHS gender clinics also need support and funding.



Lauren

While I have had many pleasant interactions with doctors at NHS practices, I have been disappointed with NHS trans healthcare on the whole. I have found my local medical practice to be uncooperative, refusing by policy to even help me take blood tests for oestrogen(a test which is a very important part of my healthcare) and lacking in doctors who are trained to support patients with gender dysphoria. The most important problem I've had with the NHS is that waiting lists for HRT can be as long as several years, which is a length of time that many transgender people cannot afford to wait.

GenderGP provided and continues to provide affirming and genuinely life saving healthcare to myself and several people I know, at a time when the NHS is not capable of doing it because of the lengthy waiting lists. The treatment this clinic offers is incredibly important to so many people and its staff are friendly and kind.

I can sincerely say that my life is drastically better for the existence of GenderGP.



Anon

Practically non-existent, I told my GP (in Cornwall) that I wanted to be referred and it took a lot of explaining in the appointment for him to actually agree to refer me. I had only come in for that reason and yet he felt the need to focus solely on my depression and forced a prescription of anti-depressants on me after I had already told him several times I didn't want it, I just came to be referred to a gender clinic. He referred me and several weeks later I got a letter saying the clinic does not currently meet the 18 weeks rule. I waited several months before deciding to make a voluntary appointment at the clinic in Exeter. It was with a woman who told me the waiting list was more like 5+ years just for an initial appointment and then another year's wait for an assessment if you're lucky. I was also told it would be incredibly unlikely I would get a testosterone prescription if I showed any femininity at all and would have to essentially put on a show to prove I was trans. I left the appointment feeling like absolutely crap to be honest with you and never heard anything from the clinic at all. That was over 4 years ago now that I was originally referred.

My experience of Dr Webberley has been that she has repeatedly spoken up on behalf of trans people because of the NHS's severe lack of care and adequate treatment. She has provided a service which should have already existed in the first place, she's actually helping trans people, unlike the NHS who just leaves them to it. She has a team of well trained professionals who I believe fairly assess individuals for trans related care, I felt incredibly supported and well taken care of throughout the whole assessment and gender journey.

GenderGP does what NHS GIC's are supposed to. They actually provides trans people with the care, acknowledgement, and support they need to survive in what is still quite a transphobic world. They assess you fairly, they ask the right and correct relevant questions in terms of your own gender journey, and they don't over-analyse you or make make you feel like you're on trial just for being trans. As a trans-related healthcare provider, they are incredible, they're actual lifesavers to people like myself.

If it wasn't for GenderGP being set up and providing the services they do, in all honestly I would have killed myself

because the NHS waiting times are disgraceful and shocking. Myself and countless others have all been in positions of serious distress, because the NHS completely lets trans people down. It's blatant discrimination fuelled by blatant transphobia from the government and general practitioners as well. You feel like no one cares, that the NHS would rather you either give up or kill yourself just so you go away. They don't want to listen to trans people, they don't want to help them, but Dr Webberley does, and has done a fantastic job doing so. I truly hope that she will eventually be able to continue practicing medicine and that GenderGP will continue to flourish and help trans people.

Andrea

The health care system for transgender people is broken, it's no longer working or serving a viable meaningful service in its current guise. Is

Doctors like Helen Webberley are making a huge impact on transgender peoples life every day and have prevent many suicides. NHS gps are a post code lottery some are willing to honor their duty of care, many more refuse to help.

GICs are not coping with criminal waiting times and it's going to get worse, give local GP's the tools to provide hormone treatments.

The GIC should still play a role but more assessing patients for life changing surgery not to provide hormone prescriptions, because what's the point once your discharged from the GIC.

Our own GP's provide future care and I would rather trust Dr Webberley and her experience than my own GP.

Hormone blocks help give someone time to consider their future path through life, it allows for a more positive transition if that's what they decide to do. For female to male trans men it takes away the need for top surgery, for male to female it will prevent voices breaking facial hair but most importantly it prevents further mental trauma and suicides.

The most important thing is giving a person time to decide their own future without the dysphoria as puberty starts and I fully am aware what it's like or how that feels. I also know the pain misery live can be and how isolating it is living in the wrong gender because nobody is prepared to help.

Anon

My experience has been welcoming and helpful, quick responses and helpful clarity. Combined with respectful and honest interactions (both forms required to be filled out and the face to face information gathering on zoom) during the information gathering stage fostered a safe environment where I felt I could be honest about my gender expression and, not only without fear of being questioned and interrogated on my own known reality but also, receive the help I needed efficiently and accurately.

GenderGP is the only affordable private clinic and, considering the staggering wait times and reports of poor treatment by the NHS, my only real option to help realistically and effectively aid in my transition.

Anon

I don't consider it an exaggeration to state that Dr Helen Webberley and her service saved my life.

Being able to finally start my transition turned my mental health around completely, and I've finally been able to pull myself out of the miserable rut caused by dysphoria. GenderGP has been nothing but professional, and the care provided surpasses any NHS gender specialist I've ever met. Frequent check-ins with therapists and blood tests ensure that the care provided is always up to standard, and not once have I ever regretted my decision to trust Dr Webberley and her service with my care.

Aaron

Young Voice

I have not worked with Dr Helen directly but her and her colleagues work at GenderGP is and continues to be essential for transgender patients that the NHS has failed.



Toby

Young Voice

The NHS waiting times are ridiculous, causing damage to trans peoples mental health. Dysphoria is a killer and without the correct treatment etc so many trans people lose their lives. GenderGP is giving the opportunity for trans people to have the correct hormones for who they are! The NHS does minimalistic things for trans people who are under 18, doctors are useless with providing care and support for most trans individuals. Even once you turn 18 you still have to wait to be seen. The NHS claims that when a referral is made to a service you should be given a appointment with a specialist within a few months. But for us trans people we don't get non of that and are left stuck in our wrong bodies for years!

Dr Helen Webberley can only be described in a positive way, a life saver for transgender people under GenderGP. Without her I can guarantee the suicide rate would be twice as high.

We are able to get specialist care to be ourselves that the NHS can't even offer unless you wait 4+ years for a series of appointments.

Anon

Young Voice

Atrocious. Our f-m son was on the waiting list forever and when he eventually did see somebody, they kept moving the goal posts to get the hormone blockers - leaving him thoroughly depressed, frustrated and not knowing which way to turn. His future looked very bleak - if indeed, he had a future.

Dr. Webberley is a genuinely kind, sincere, sensitive and understanding person who has literally saved our son's - and many others - lives.

GenderGP are a long established, efficient, thorough and understanding service who put the NHS to shame. They are life savers.

Without the remarkable Helen Webberley, our son would not be here. Because of the serious lacking in NHS care, our son was in a very dark place and even attempted suicide. Since obtaining hormone blockers and then testosterone, he is a much changed boy. He is being true to himself/his gender and it has turned his life around 100%. We can't praise Dr. Webberley and GenderGP enough and thank them to the bottom of our hearts.

Anon

Young Voice

Throughout my time being under GenderGP's care, I have been completely aware that Dr Webberley puts trans people and our autonomy first. I have not had any firsthand experience with Dr Webberley, but her service and those working with her have helped me immensely.

GenderGP is one of (if not the only) trans-related healthcare services in the UK that works with transgender professionals in order to actually understand its patients. I think it is so important to be understood by medical professionals during the transition period, and the only place I have ever felt that is under the care of GenderGP.

No other service relies on autonomy and it has proven to be detrimental.

Claire

Young Voice

We asked to be referred to the GIDS when my trans daughter wanted to transition and we wanted information and guidance. We were referred in 2018 when she was under 18. We then had to transfer to the adult service once she turned 18 but had still not had any assessments. We have still not heard anything from the NHS service as to when a first appointment will be. My daughter has been suicidal because she felt to trapped in the wrong body and wanted help

We looked up about gender healthcare services and continually found brilliant reviews for GenderGP. We found that they offered lots of information that we could look through at our own pace.

To stop GenderGP / Dr Webberley from continuing this fantastic service would be absolutely criminal. There is no other service available to support people from the NHS and people should have the freedom to choose their help and where they get it from. We back Dr Webberley 100%

Daniel

Young Voice

I do not have experience working with Dr Helen Webberley personally.

To anyone else who sees this, I implore you to help support Dr Webberley throughout this process. To the GMC, please consider how many transgender lives you are ruining and potentially ending by taking away the only adequate accessible treatment available to us as transgender youth in the UK. To any parents of transgender children considering GenderGP as an option, I cannot encourage you enough to help your children through this process.

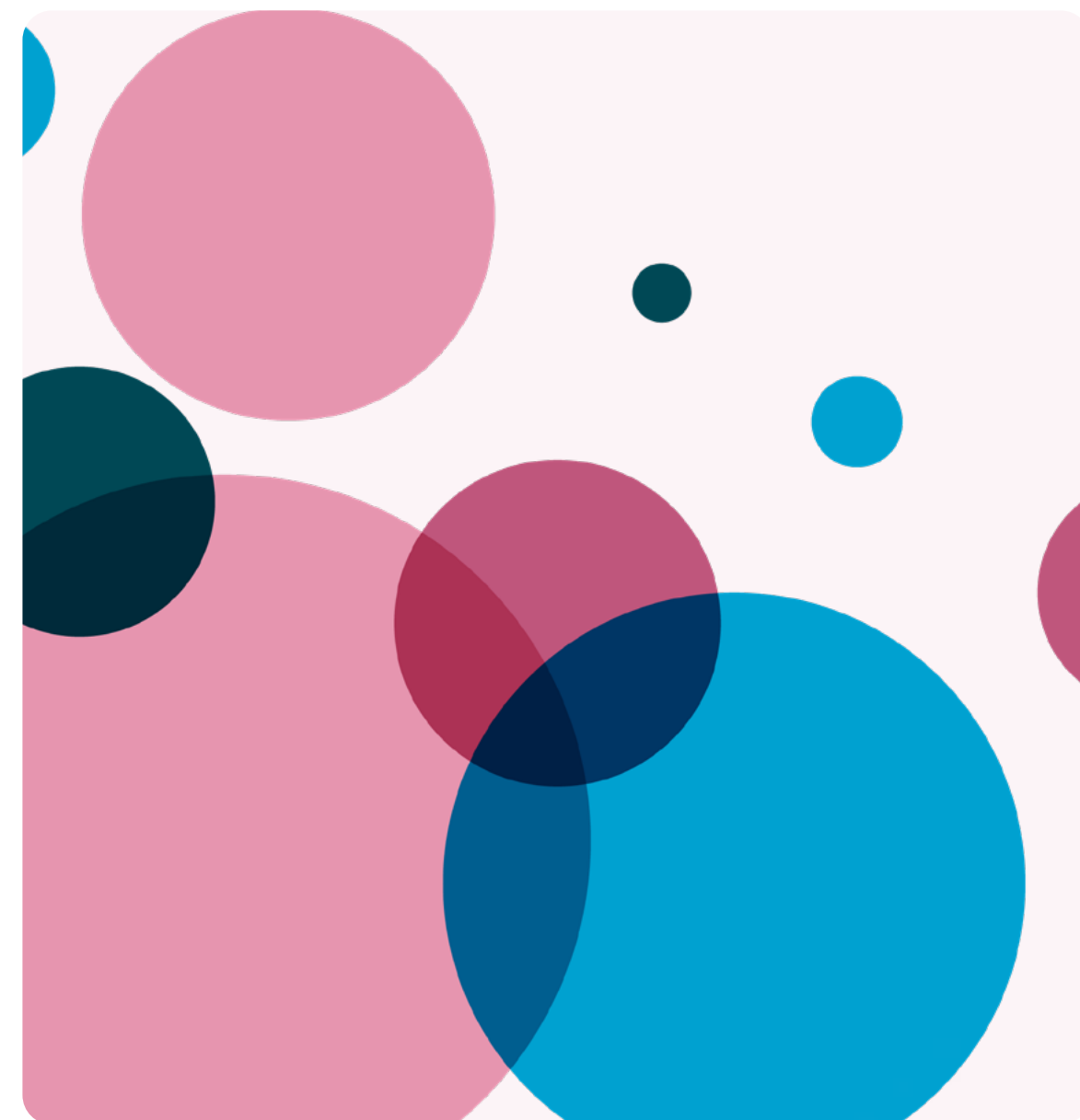
I promise you, this service saved my life & quality of life, and it will do the same for your transgender child. Thank you GenderGP.

Anon

Young Voice

No support from GIDS - my son who has just turned 18 has been on the waiting list for 3 years - and now he has joined the waiting list for the adults service with no indication of when he might be seen. We do however have a supportive GP (one of the lucky ones) who has been kind and understanding (the first GP was not) and organises bloods but will not prescribe T until a diagnosis of gender dysphoria has been given. There are no services health care services for trans people - and if you do not have the money to support private care/assessment and medication this can lead to very serious implications for young people. No direct contact with Dr Webberley but fantastic support from the service - the criticism of her is unfounded and unfair - as a parent i want (and so does my son) a thorough assessment before medication or transitioning begins (this is the criticism) but how do young people get this when the services are limited to GIDS who take too long to assess and are not available to everyone - health care should not be dependent on whether you can afford it or not

There are so many young people who need support, guidance from experts and the right health care - why are they less important than anyone else. I would like to thank Dr Webberley for remain strong, being there for all the trans young people and remaining firm in what she believes is fair and equal.



Anon

My experience with GenderGP was amazing, as the Dr that I had my consultation with was very understanding of my gender identity, how I want to be perceived and referred to, and how dysphoria affects me in my social and personal life. Since starting hormones my mental health and body image have significantly improved, despite only being on them for under two months.

Previously I had a pessimistic outlook on how the rest of my life would play out, and felt like however hard I tried I would never be satisfied with it. Now that my body is finally starting to feel like mine, life seems livable and not constricting.

Due to Dr Webberley's work, me and several of my friends have a decent shot at actually reaching a mental and physical place of happiness.

If I had gotten on hormones through the NHS, i would have had to go through a lengthy and damaging process and be well into my twenties by the end of it. By this point, there is no way to tell how much my mental health would have deteriorated, and how much more of my life would have been lost.

Trans people have been treated like a taboo discussion in mainstream media, the only spaces that we havent been discriminated against have been the ones that we have made ourselves.

The more that you restrict Trans Healthcare, the more that we are othered, the more we are alienated, as if our physicality isnt alienating enough."



Anon

We first became involved with GenderGP when our Enby's mental health was deteriorating and they were suicidal.

This was not long after we had been informed of the waiting list at GIDS. A thorough assessment, numerous sessions with the GenderGP therapists, and a meeting with the consultant resulted in hormones and hormone blockers being prescribed 5 months later.

Anon

GenderGP have been kind, understanding, professional in every aspect from assessing my daughter at the beginning to present day.

Every aspect has been on my daughters side, never questioning or doubting her and actually listening to her.

Without GenderGP I'm not sure if my daughter would even still be here.

She was in such an awful place in herself but once she was listened to and received the medication she needed literally everything changed. I had a daughter who was stuck in a boys body who was agoraphobic, depressed, had suicidal thoughts and locked in her bedroom. The nhs expected her to wait possibly 4 years before they would help her. Because of GenderGP we now have a daughter who joins in every aspect of family life, she goes out without fear and as her true self. She goes to parties and socialises, she has got her life back totally and has even started studying again and will be doing her GCSE's even though at one point that would never have happened. She is 100% confident and outgoing. All within eight months now f being with GenderGP. Imagine how different life would be if she had been relying on the nhs solely.

Millie

When I first started on my transition back at the end of 2017 I was well aware that there were delays in the GIC's seeing people. In preparation for this I downloaded the requisite referral forms and filled them out to stage where they just required signing and sending off by my GP. It took a full 7 months after this date for them to be processed and my referral request to be registered. Since then my GP has stopped shared care and also ceased any monitoring via blood tests leaving private options my only route. Nearly 4 years on and I'm still yet to be seen on the NHS and can't only imagine my situation if not for the aid of GenderGP.

It is with no sense of hyperbole that i say, that without GenderGP, I may not have been around to write this today. That my wife may be a widow and my children would be missing a parent.

Having done everything I could to repress my dysphoria since my childhood I'd finally reached breaking point. I'd missed out on transitioning in my youth due to gatekeeping and attitudes towards transgender people at the time. On finally breaking and feeling I had no way forward but to transition I researched available options. Long story short I discovered GenderGP as an interim measure to keep me sane and aid in my transition until the NHS could take over. Nearly 4 years on I am socially transitioned and living full time as my true self. Accepted by family, a job where I'm known as just me and so much happier than I ever was before. I still have surgical transition to go but I am where I am in no small part thanks to the support and guidance of the staff at all levels of GenderGP. I am and always will be eternally grateful. For what it's worth I'm still with my interim solution and yet to hear from the NHS.

GenderGP is a lifeline.

Their patient first approach to supporting people is a breath of fresh air compared with the anachronistic model used by the NHS which has resulted in a situation that can only be described as a disgrace and would be tolerated for literally no other condition. The service pioneered in the UK by the Webberleys is essential and I thank them with all my heart.

Callum

So far I have had a very negative experience with the NHS. I had to go to my GP several times to ask for a referral to a gender clinic and was told I would have to wait because of my age. Once I finally turned 18 I went back to my GP and was told I was now getting referred however I checked up a couple of months after and they had still not done it.

I have had a very good experience so far with Dr Webberley and GenderGP.

The process was very fast and easy and any issues or questions I had was replied to very fast. Once it came to the medical side of things everything went smoothly with my video call meetings and I felt like the process to find out about my personal feelings regarding my gender was very in-depth.

Cody

I'm actually really disappointed in the NHS transgender care. For one they have really long waiting times. Secondly, They are highly uneducated on transgender patients at doctor surgeries. Thirdly, My doctors refused to take my bloods, so in that I didn't feel like I was getting the duty of care from them as I should have. Just because I'm transgender doesn't mean I shouldn't be kept safe.

Personally I don't know Dr Helen Webberley, but I really appreciate the services she has made for trans people, she has helped not only me but a lot of other trans people get further in their transition. She works so hard to fight for us. She really cares for the trans youth and wants to help as much as she can with the knowledge and resources she has.



Rachel

I was recommended to check out GenderGP and Helen Webberley through my new counsellor who specialised in trans issues. I researched online and made contact. Simply put, I was treated like an adult, I was listened to and offered help. I wrote of my life experiences, of my feelings and requirements. I spoke with an independent counsellor who was able to assess my situation. I undertook blood tests and was consequently confirmed via diagnoses that I was indeed suffering from Gender Dysphoria and that I would be able to seek treatment and support via GenderGP if I so desired. This whole system was set up to believe me and my story, to treat me as an informed adult and to understand that this was my life and my decision. I found multiple sources of information and similar people/stories and if I so desired could immerse myself more fully in this support network. However, personally what I wished was to start a monitored and assessed low level hormone therapy to support me emotionally through the journey ahead. This was actioned, each prescription being clinically assessed before repetition, further blood test supplied and online support and sense of community offered. And as a consequence, my life is changing. I continue counselling locally to assist me with this process. I have no defined end point but I have a path that I can follow until I feel I am at a point where I can finally exist in my full truth. This has only been possible because Helen sought to help those she saw were being missed by the system. And in my experiences under her care, I have witnessed care, concern, assistance, professionalism and inclusion to a community that was not possible in normal life. However I have never personally met Helen but I would feel a gross injustice has been dealt to her by the general medical council and that shame should be directed back to those responsible. Helen has obviously taken a risk with her own life to help others who are already suffering under an inadequate and antiquated part of the healthcare system.

She should be honoured and praised for the incredible sacrifices and dedication to advancing trans health care in this country.

I am more than happy and willing to state this publicly and stand by my support for her, for her actions and for GenderGP.

Karen

If it wasn't for GenderGP's care I wouldn't be as happy and at peace with myself as I am now at 67 having socially transitioned and altered my body in a way that allows me to express my gender authentically for the first time in my life. I know there are hundreds, if not thousands of people in the same happy position who would still be waiting in intense anxiety for that first or second appointment through the NHS.



Abigail

I have never met Dr Webberley so can not comment on her personally.

However her passion to support our community is phenomenal and she should be awarded an OBE for her work not punished.

Anon

The current state of NHS healthcare for trans people is ridiculous and straight up offensive. We are told to wait for years on end without any progress updates, clear communication from the GIC, mental health support in the meanwhile or any help from our GPs. It's absolutely unbelievable and somehow the government and the NHS has managed to jeopardize the lives of so many people. I went to my GP at the time in 2017 to be referred to a GIC however my doctor, despite attending years of medical school, had no idea what to do, and in the end, my referral was never sent, and I was left waiting for years without knowing what to even do. Currently I'm using private services however still, my GPs know nothing about trans services, and so they remain completely useless in treating me.

Dr Helen Webberley's service has saved so many lives and made transitioning entirely possible from our homes, without feeling degraded, misunderstood and ignored. I am so thankful that I get to access her service and be treated as a human whilst having my medical needs considered.

Although I am upset that the current state of trans healthcare is so utterly useless that we as a community have to use private services just to be taken seriously, I am so so happy that GenderGP exist. It's a reliable service with so many qualified doctors and therapists and I feel so safe and understood. Dr Webberley is one of the few doctors in the UK who have taken trans healthcare seriously and I very appreciate her help and support throughout the years.



Anon

Young Voice

Dr Webberley understands what trans children need and how best to give the treatment to them. I first saw her speak in 2015 at a mermaids meeting, she could see the failing of the NHS for trans children and adults and set up GenderGP to provide a service that the NHS aren't providing.

She needs to be reinstated and have this court case dismissed so she can carry in the good work she is doing for the trans community. NHS or GMC money should be spent on better things than this, it's a disgrace. You should be providing better training for your doctors instead of condemning the ones that want to help.

Anon

Young Voice

Our family experience of the NHS health provisions in relation to transgender health is nonexistent as the current delays in seeing a professional is ridiculous.

My experience with Dr. Helen Webberley is in relation to accessing support for my transgender child through GenderGP. We have used the services of her clinic and in a sea of murky waters, she provides an island of knowledge and safety.

The system is methodical and takes time to navigate through the various gates to obtain medication. I guess this is to ensure that the right people are supported and the system cannot be abused. However, for our family, it was slow at times and caused stress as a result.

Anon

Young Voice

I have had no personal experience with Dr Webberley but I have deep respect and admiration for her. She has sacrificed so much to provide respectful and efficient care to the trans community that I think it's ludicrously she could ever be considered as having any part in malpractice. She is only considered this due to transphobic law which considers trans people as unable to make decisions about their own bodies. There isn't the same politics surrounding other body altering procedures such as lip fillers, liposuction or botox so it's clear it's a transphobia issue not a genuine concern of care.

Loukas

Young Voice

As a trans man living in the UK, I've had to battle not only the people close to me to be seen or heard as the person I am and always have been but the NHS' lack of funding for gender identity and hormonal services.

I was referred to my local GIDS (Gender Identity Developmental Services) at December 2017 and was seen around March of 2019. In that time I struggled with my physical and mental development and as I had other things I was struggling with I thought that I could leave it to the NHS to at least help me with my gender and hopefully hormonal treatment. Through no fault of the employees but fault of the government it took an obscene amount to be seen for my first appointment and after that about half a year to conclude them. I was offered puberty blockers despite being vocal about wanting hormones from the start. I know in the UK that is not allowed as I was under 18 years old at the time or at but it was and always has been a matter of life and death to me and many other kids going through the same thing. Safe to say, after all that wait and pain, I was very disappointed with the whole process of the NHS. I was under obligation to myself and my wellbeing to change to a private practice which I had the privilege of being able to afford and continue to be able to, which not many people do.

Globally transgender people face mistreatment on a daily basis and more specifically transwomen of colour and this country is not doing enough to provide us with the necessity that is trust that we know our bodies and brains better than any healthcare representative outside of our community. Those representatives are not funding these services to an adequate amount but also attacking the private practices that are in fact keeping trans youth alive and happy."

Dr Helen Webberly founded the private practice GenderGP and in that process has helped save many lives including my own. I am now nearing 2 years on Testosterone, more specifically in August 2021 and in this journey I have recovered from being a danger to myself to finding confidence in my appearance, finding love without worrying about things that no one else inherently has to think twice about outside of the community and focusing on living life instead of trying to survive through it.

I am ever grateful for the efforts of Dr Helen Webberley and the team

and any attack on this practitioner will harm everyone involved in ways I promise you you could not fathom or wish to. An attack on Dr Helen Webberley is an attack to us all, trans youth do not need more fight nor uncertainty in our lives."

Anon

Young Voice

My son came out as transgender in 2016 when he was 16 years old. It took several visits to his GP, convincing them that this was not "just a phase" before he was referred to GIDS in Tavistock. It then took more than a year before he was first seen and 6 visits to the the GIDS clinic over a period of several months before he was considered transgender and male. By the time he was eligible to be referred to Endocrinology for cross sex hormones he had reached the age where he needed to see consultants at Adult Services. This service in Daventry was wholly inadequate, with doctors not communicating between them and not having seen patient records prior to visits, so that much time was wasted and we were concerned about the safety and efficacy of his Testosterone treatment due to lack of monitoring and follow up. After a year it became clear that the chances of getting a referral for top surgery in the NHS through this service were slim to absent, which cause significant stress and mental health issues with my son.

We approached GenderGP in November 2018 with a request for a referral to a private consultant for top surgery. We were told that GenderGP could not recommend a surgeon, but would be happy to assist with in referring my son to a surgeon of his choice is he had one in mind, which he did.

Following two consultations with Dr Webberley and a Lead Counsellor at GenderGP to assess his diagnosis and his suitability for the requested surgery he was given a referral and could finally get the treatment he so needed to overcome his dysphoria. Dr Webberley was kind, quick to respond and listened very well to the needs of my son I am told.

Ananda

Young Voice

I have helped support both my son and my foster son try and navigate the NHS Tavistock gender identity services, my son at 3 years on a waiting list, after being told less than a years wait initially on acceptance of the referral, and having several time time scales moved, I decided without any solid appointment date to go private. And later with my foster son, as they were on the list for approximately 22 months and the anticipation at the time was it could be up to 5 years, so sought permission from the LA. The government currently run the service as not fit for purpose and against the patients charter.

Philippa

Young Voice

My 12 year old was assigned female at birth but has transitioned to male this year. The only assistance we can get on the NHS is a referral to CAMHS (even though it is not a mental health disorder) and to join the Tavistock clinic waiting list which is so many years long there's really no point.

I admire Dr Webberley for setting up this life saving organisation and for not backing down in the face of challenges by medical colleagues



Anon

I am a Trans Female, and proud of who I am, GGP were there for me when I was in a very bad place mentally ,with no one willing or able to help me, I attempted to take my own life twice and was struggling to cope, Just having someone who acknowledged and accepted me, made positive steps to allowing me to freely progress, it was an amazing sense of not being alone anymore,

I am now over two years on medication and over 3 years from openly presenting as female and getting on with a productive life working in the health care sector and volunteering within the NHS , I now feel like I am as I was supposed to be, and my life now makes more sense.

If GGP were stopped from operating in the UK, it would be devastating for me and set me on that road to desperation and darkness again.

I have always known who I was GGP have allowed me to be that person, saving me! when the NHS let me down and walked away.

Anon

I haven't been with them for long, but GenderGP have been incredibly helpful with my transition, allowing me to take it at my own pace. GenderGP are incredibly friendly people, who seem to honestly care about the work they are doing, and in my case they are always there whenever I need them.

Looking back, before I joined GenderGP's service I can tell I was depressed, I felt like the older I was the more my time was running out, seeking help from the NHS was pointless.

With GenderGP, I am happier, I am actually getting somewhere with my transition,

and compared to my experience with the NHS they actually listen to my concerns or queries.

John

GenderGP are life savers, they have done nothing but support me safely through my transition. Speaking to one of their therapists, allowed me to get so much grief and feelings off my chest. I spoke to someone who for the first time actually understood what i was feeling and why i was feeling this. I felt heard and seen for the first time in my life, I can't describe how enlightening it was to speak to them. When I began testosterone it was the happiest day of my life and the best decision i have ever made. GenderGP ensured to inform me of any and all possible side effects and what the HRT could change for me. Their follow up sessions are fantastic and their support is amazing. Whenever I have a query they are always so quick to get back to me, and never hesitate to go out of their way to help. They are clearly putting the care of their patients first, and help so many people.

Daniel

When I first set up a GP appointment to be referred to the Tavistock (NHS healthcare for transgender children), it was not a positive experience. I had to, as a 12 year old, explain to a professional healthcare provider what the Tavistock was, and how to refer me. After I was eventually referred, I received a letter around 5 months after my referral with a date, saying I would likely be seen in August 2018. I did not receive an appointment until September 2019. I finally had my appointment, and quite frankly the Tavistock clinic was useless. All they could offer me was 'a space to explore my identity', despite the fact I had been socially transitioned fully for roughly 2 years at that point, and had never wavered in my identity. They could not offer me any useful medical treatment, and the hormone blocker treatment would have been useful at 12 when I was referred, but due to the waiting list the treatment was rendered pointless by the time I was seen. I waited three years and they did nothing.

GenderGP saved my life.

My gender dysphoria impacts every aspect of my life, and the accessibility of GenderGP's HRT treatment is the reason I am still here today, happy and healthy. When I first got in contact with GenderGP the response was swift, helpful & friendly, and this has remained true throughout my time under the clinic. I finally felt listened to and cared for, and like I wasn't fighting a system rigged against me, as a transgender teenager, for simple medical treatment. GenderGP has saved my life where the NHS couldn't, and I will remain grateful to this service for the rest of my life.

Anon

I dread to think of where I and many others would be without Dr Webberley's initiative of creating such a valuable service for the trans and non-binary communities.

I am fortunate in that I have sufficient means to pay for GGP and my taxes used to support the NHS service but not everyone is so placed."

Anon

Since the 1st of January I have been appalled at the state of the current NHS healthcare provision for transgender people. Before then and before my child came out to me I had no idea what an awful state this service was in. I have spent the last six months educating myself and trying to navigate my way through a ridiculously flawed system. I work in public health with young people and we have a seven day KPI to our first assessment and a seven day KPI to first seeing that young person. In comparison to the NHS transgender service this now seems absolutely ridiculous when my poor child is sitting on a three year waiting list just for their first assessment-this is appalling and so far away from the early interventions that I advocate.

Every professional I have spoken to, I have had to educate them first before asking them for the help that we needed-my GP service was also incredibly disappointing and did not provide the service that I expected or the care and attention that I believe all health professionals should provide. We were dismissed as too complicated and too difficult and too dangerous with everything that's going on with the current court case against the Tavistock.

To have my GP wash their hands of us when I have worked for the NHS for 20 years feel so sad and disappointing.

The NHS provision should provide an early intervention, The service should fundamentally believe young people and ask them ,how can I help?', 'what can I do to help you?' -rather than taking them through a barrage of assessments to check how transgender they actually are-if you really think about it it seems absolutely ridiculous, as why would any young person say they're transgender for attention!

It is probably the most difficult thing I've had to go through as a parent and that we have had to go through as a family- this is not a choice!

I feel angry, lonely, let down and disappointed by the current provision.

Frankie

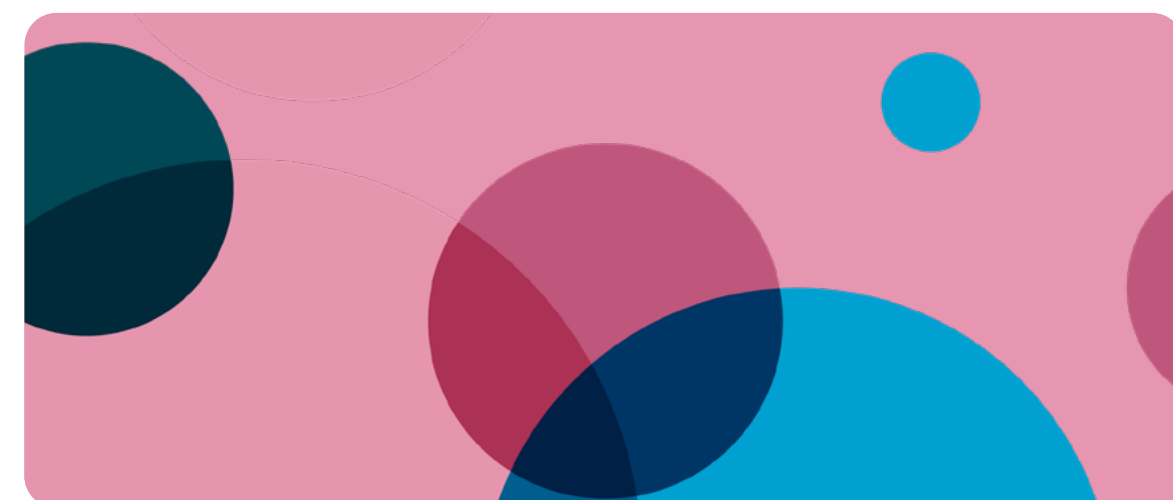
By August 2017, having been told by Nottingham GIC that I wouldn't be seen for at least 2 year I was in despair having already seriously considered suicide twice the previous year. Not knowing where to look I discovered GenderGP's website and was immediately struck by the obvious compassion, understanding and professionalism of Dr Webberley. I filled in their application online form on a Sunday afternoon and received a reply from Helen personally within three hours and had an appointment to see their lead therapist a few days later. I've heard her speak numerous times since then on trans issues and it is clear to me that she not only has a deep insight into the problems facing trans people but that she also puts them at the centre of all her thinking. She has achieved this by continuously listening to what we have to say and by ceaselessly learning from the best practice of other institutions all over the world.

The initial therapy my wife and I received was crucial in saving our marriage and the subsequent switch to hormone therapy at an appropriate time when I felt I was ready was smooth and efficient. At all times I was kept fully informed of the process and I felt fully confident in their knowledge and experience. This has continued to the present day and I have nothing but praise for them.

Theo

GenderGP have allowed me to start a medical transition, presenting me with all the information I have needed. GenderGP have allowed me to have a life where I can be happy. A feeling I have never had, and without them I wouldn't have for many more years.

GenderGP have given me a future.



Tony

If it wasn't for GenderGP I would not be here today. Sat on an NHS waiting list for years and not even an estimate for how long i have left to wait for a first appointment, ive been told it could be years. GenderGP have literally saved my life. I couldn't continue living without the hormones i most desperately needed. They treated me with compassion,as a fellow human. Not just a number on a list like the NHS. I am treated with dignity and have every faith in every member of their dedicated team of professionals. I know exactly where i am with my treatment with regular blood tests and follow up sessions. I feel in control of my life. I have a reason to live. I am finally me.

I think the GMC need to seriously consider Helens model of treatment for transgender health care. There is no way the NHS can continue the way it is. Too many lives have been lost. You wouldn't put a dog through the pain of the agonising wait for treatment.

Listen to our community.

Educate yourselves and let go of your unfounded fears and gatekeeping. It is utterly humiliating. We know who we are. We have always known who we are. Helen knows who we are. She sees us. She sees our pain and im in no doubt she feels it too. If you could walk just one day in our shoes you would be in no doubt that Helen is the founder of hope for us.

She's saved countless lives and i'll be forever grateful.

Anon

I cannot describe in enough detail what a lifeline the service has provided for me and would simply add that

if it were not for Dr Webberley's support many trans people would be relying on a stretched NHS that cannot cope and waiting lists that leave people on despair.



Zachary

GenderGP are amazing. Respond promptly, answer all questions, lay out all options. They progress your case without delays and at the pace you want, they are completely patient focussed and without them I do not think I would be here now. They should be the go-to service, I am now in my 60s and after a lifetime of appalling service from the NHS I can say GenderGP are far superior.

Nova

The experience has been fantastic, to have doctors and like-minded people who understand my health issues and can provide assistance to me when nobody else will is truly life-saving. They show actual care for my wellbeing and operating under the NHS guidance keep a close eye on my progress to ensure a beneficial and healthy result is achieved

Allana

I have been with GenderGP for a few years now and have had a great service, and I send my blood results to them every three months so they can monitor the medication. If I have any questions they have an easy portal with FAQs also a help line. The counsellors are all qualified, and fantastic support. If not for them I would not be here.

You may of seen on social media and press that the GMC do not recognise the GenderGP service mainly because they provide outstanding support to the teens and at the moment there is court action ongoing,

Dr Webbley has put her head above the parapet and is filling a great gap the Health service and government are not willing to admit is there.

Have a look at the website, GenderGP.Com There is a lot of useful information. In short, the the service is positive and very much needed.

Anon

I feel like I've said it above, but it's really important to highlight this,

I wouldn't be here, my 3 children would be mourning a parent, without the help of GenderGP, they have saved me.



Anon

GenderGP saved my life, I was bed ridden due to severe dysphoria and on the verge of suicide from September-November 2019.

I got my first dose of testosterone December 2019. It's now July 2021, I'm attending college and am able to leave the house without second thoughts. They saved my life and my future. If it wasn't for GenderGP I would be dead or severely mentally incapacitated. I am truly grateful for everyone who works here and of course the Webberley's who began this service. They are saving lives and giving the vulnerable a voice.



Anon

Young Voice

We began using GenderGP in February 2021. We began by accessing counselling with trained psychotherapists and getting advice on what the medical route would look like for my daughter.

The service she has put together is, quite simply, life saving.

Anon

Young Voice

My eldest daughter is transgender & had to wait literally years to be seen by anyone within the NHS. During the time she was waiting her mental health deteriorated drastically because she felt as though she didn't matter & wasn't being taken seriously. As she said 'can you imagine these waiting times in any other area of NHS healthcare, it simply wouldn't be accepted, but for transgender people it's deemed to be ok' For her this state of affairs says everything you need to know about the NHS attitude to transgender people."

After my daughter was finished with appointments at the Tavistock Clinic (it took almost 2 years for her to be seen at Tavistock), she was then put on a further waiting list for the Adult GIS clinic (which took a further 12 months for her to be seen by them) Whilst my daughter was waiting for her appointment with the Adult GIS clinic once again her mental health deteriorated drastically. GenderGP were invaluable during this time in allowing her to safely access hormones & begin the physical transition she was desperate to start. The care she accessed through GenderGP was supportive & informed & it was hugely beneficial. I dread to think what state she would be in now without GenderGP.

A massive thank you for everything you do for the transgender community at great personal cost & good luck

Evelyn

Young Voice

My child joined the NHS Scotland waiting list for the Sandyford youth gender clinic in July 2018. He was 13 at the time. We received a triage appointment 30 months later in January 2021. The actual assessment for medical treatment finally started in May 2021, 34 months after joining the waiting list. It is anticipated that the NHS protocol assessment will take potentially a year to complete, so we do not expect any medical treatment to begin until well into 2022 (if it happens at all). That means nearly 4 years waiting for any actual treatment for his gender dysphoria. Waiting is not benign. It is incredibly damaging. Our own GP could offer no help at all. She didn't even know where the local gender clinic was, never heed how to refer us to it. She openly admitted to knowing no way in which she could help us.

My personal experience is restricted to her efforts as an advocate and ally rather than as a doctor. We have found her GenderGP podcasts to be extremely informative and supportive. The wide range of invited guests and expert voices have helped to educate me as the parent of a trans child, and have directly supported my mental health, and therefore by extension that of my child.

Emilio

Young Voice

Frustrating, tiring and fruitless. Despite all aspects of the NHS being underfunded, since starting my medical transition in 2016 I have watched the NHS gender identity services go from bad to worse. False promises were made to keep me on ridiculously long waiting lists, barring me from considering private treatment. I was told I would be provided blockers after 9 months within the service. I stayed for 3 years and received nothing. Due to being at my wits end, forced into the worst place mentally by the negligence of the service-I had to find the money to be able to go private. An opportunity which, at 16 and provided only by GenderGP, I can honestly say saved my life. I cannot imagine the pain of those who aren't as lucky. I believe the NHS treatment for transgender individuals is currently in a crisis that is not recognised and not getting better in anyway, both the private sector and public sector are insecure, under constant stress from outside ignorance who believe it is easy to be medicalised and that being trans is 'encouraged'. Without public or private, where can we turn? Taking healthcare away from a marginalised groups eventually becomes genocide. It is not good enough.

I have not had direct contact with Dr Webberley herself, as when I joined the service in late 2018 the allegations were already heavily underway and I believe she had moved abroad. However I am forever grateful for her work to keep GenderGP going, a service I could not have lived without.

Greyson

Young Voice

it is really bad, i've heard from pals of mine that the nhs do not support them the way that they want. they are frustrated and annoyed with the waiting times and lack of belief that the doctors have in them being actually trans - its not like my friends are young they are all over 16. from my experience i have not been since the waiting list is so long im about 2 years into my wait and it's frustrating so i switched to GenderGP

i have not spoke to dr Helen Webberley but i am confident that she is a wonderful doctor

the allegations against dr Webberley are very stupid. i think she is a wonderful women who generally cares about the trans youth of the uk and wants to provide what the nhs and government cannot. the nhs is failing trans people and GenderGP is just in there place helping 1000s of trans people get access to care they need, i am so thankful for GenderGP because if it wasn't for GenderGP i don't think i would be here the now and i think that says for a lot of trans people across the uk.



Luna

Young Voice

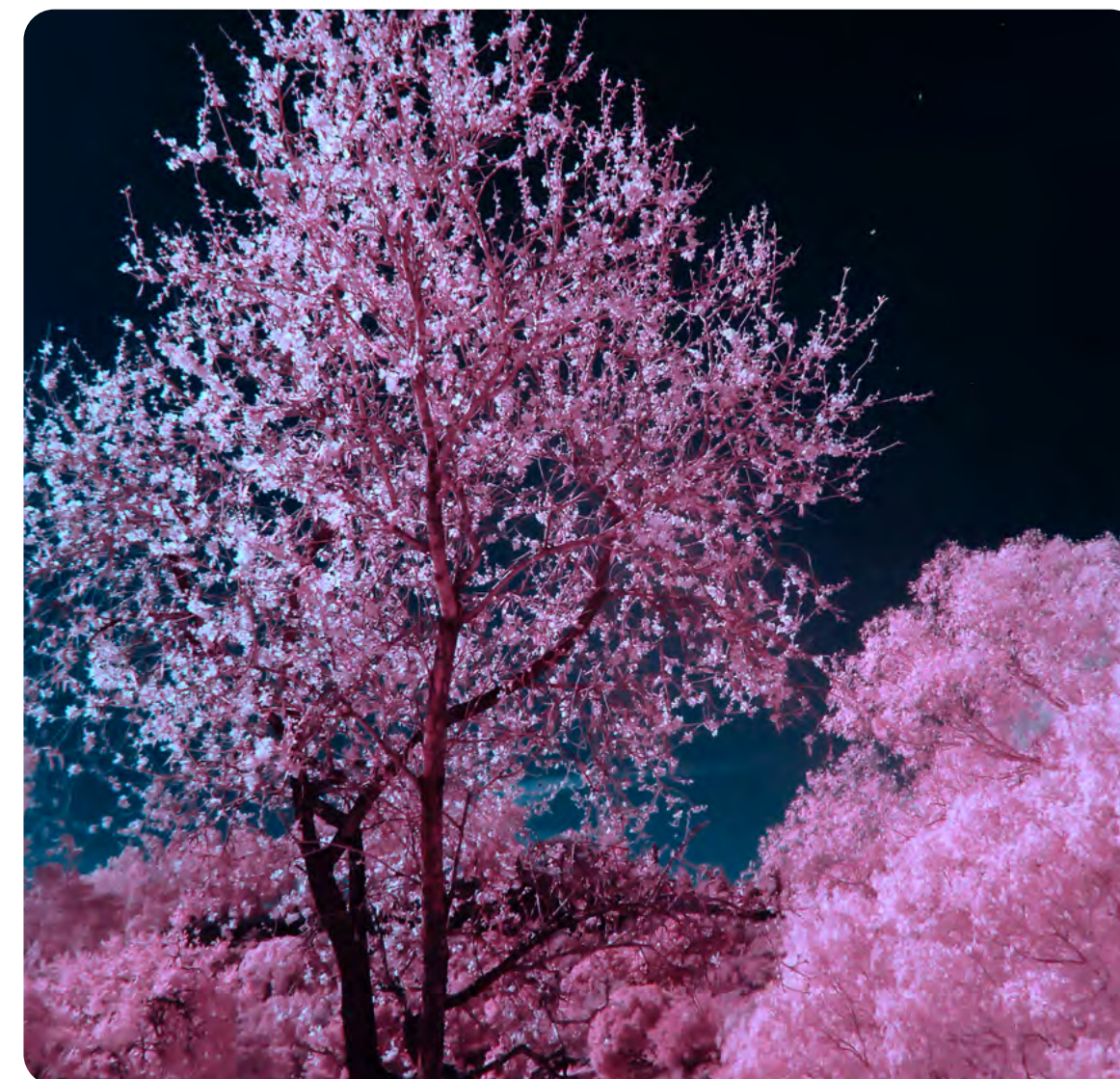
i haven't talked with her directly but her organisation and the people working under her are some of the nicest i have ever known, again they saved my life.

They got me on HRT quickly and made me feel in control as well as explaining why some things had to happen, a rare thing for any under 18 service let alone healthcare

Anon

Young Voice

I have no experience of Dr Helen Webberley as a doctor as she has not treated my child.



Anon

Young Voice

A very very helpful website and indirect support (as we have not started the whole route with hormones yet). As the mother of a child who is now almost 16, and very definitely male in every outlook except biologically, it would be appalling if Dr Webberley was struck off because her extensive knowledge didn't align with the narrow outlook held in the UK.

Given that the waiting list for young people is 3+ years in the UK for a first appointment, GenderGP offers counselling, support, and eventually medication if that is the route chosen (after extensive discussion), in a far more timely manner. This is extremely important when our young people are already suffering mental health issues due to the horrendous waiting time and inability to access services that we have in the UK.

Katie

I am a 39 year old trans woman ive been transitioning since June 2019, and ive been with GenderGP since August 2020. In July 2020 i had to make a life changing decision as my mental health was getting really bad and i was getting suicidal thoughts, so i found GenderGP online, and if it was'nt for GenderGP's help and support who knows where i'd be, so as far as im concerned

Dr Helen Webberly's online service GenderGP saved my life.

Anon

They have been fantastic and I am been able to start my transition within a few weeks of applying for my appraisal. I can ask them any questioning and I always get a well informed answer quickly.

I feel they care and genuine towards me.

Ella

I have been on the waiting list for a NHS GIC since I turned 18, so 5 years now. I have not heard from the GIC I was first referred to apart from the times I emailed them to ask about my place on the waiting list. I was left alone with no resources and no support.

I found the GenderGP online and due to the more customer friendly website I decided to contact them over the other sites I found.

The GenderGP has been the best medical service I have ever had.They treated me with respect and understanding.They never made me feel like I was wasting doctors time, like my Gp has done in the past.

I would, and have, refer any trans person to the GenderGP becauseof their fast and brilliant service.

Dr.Webberly has provided the care trans people in England so desperately need and are not getting from the NHS and their criminally long waiting times.

Ananda

The experience I have had with GenderGP was with my son at the time 17 and my foster son, also 17. Both consultations, from start to finish, fell within the time constraints we were told, they were very thorough checking the correct criteria for treatment, they included me in the appointment and gathered my views,.

A very professional and friendly service, with on going support where required.

This is a vital service for young transgender people as the NHS just cannot offer the same service, and therefore leaving young people in a very stressful situation when having to live with Dysphoria

Anon

I used GenderGP's services to gain referral for surgery as I am getting surgery privately due to the extremely long NHS waiting times. GenderGP offered me a timely and compassionate service so that I can continue on my transition journey. A journey that has been going for over 1.5 years now but would not have started yet if I were to have waited for NHS healthcare.

My mental and physical health have been improved greatly thanks to GenderGP.

Taking away this service when trans people already have next to no support is a ghoulish consideration.



Anon

Great service, has allowed me to begin my transition as and when I felt comfortable rather than waiting an estimated 4+ years for NHS treatment.

This service has provided life-saving treatment to my gender dysphoria

when I had nowhere else to turn, rapidly improving my mental health for the present and future.



Anon

Having no previous experience of the situation for transgender healthcare before going through this with my daughter, I was shocked, saddened and frustrated at the lack of knowledge, care provision and unworkable waiting lists in our current NHS service.

As a mother witnessing the extreme anguish of dysphoria from puberty affecting every aspect of my child's life, and trying to firefight any self-harm and her increasing hopelessness for a future in her birth form, I could not just sit there for 3-4 years until we could even just speak to a professional.

We were told that CAMHS could not help us and that all we could do was wait on the GIDS waiting list for The Tavistock. I bought books on counseling transgender youth from experts in the UK and US. I read everything I could find online. I joined Mermaids for parent and youth support. We fully socially transitioned and changed name by deed poll, joined local support groups, but none of this helped with her physical dysphoric suffering and her constant feelings of "being wrong."

All of this placed me as my child's talking therapist and thankfully we have a good relationship where this works. I am happy that she is genuinely transgender and always will be. I also felt that it was cruel and unnecessary for her to have to be forced through the pain of her birth puberty when the knowledge of medication and its success is freely available around the world, and the instances of regret are statistically negligible.

Thankfully we were in a position to use GenderGP. If not, I truly believe that my child would have sourced her own unregulated medication from the internet as soon as she was old enough; or worse.

The services of care, support and understanding at GenderGP have been exemplary. There are opportunities for counseling and help at all levels of gender questioning and transgender healthcare. As a parent of a transgender teen, my own needs have also been supported.

My child is a different person since accessing their help.

After her first counseling session she felt recognised and validated; after her first puberty blocker injection she visibly relaxed and said,

"Now my life can begin."

And now she is 16 and begun hormones, her confidence, personality and even her school grades have soared. She has friends and is socialising and laughing again and has started to plan for her future. There is no pressure or sales-pitch at any stage and I respect and am grateful for their good advice and validation of my care as a parent."

Katie

My partner is a trans woman who has been able to get the hormone treatment she needs from GenderGP. My partner was in her mid-thirties when she finally made the decision to transition, so time was of the essence. She was discouraged from using NHS services not only by the waiting times but by the accounts of others who had used their services. My partner read with dismay about the humiliating, degrading questions trans people were being asked in order to prove they were trans. She felt like the GLC staff would have all the power, and she would be the agency-less recipient of whatever treatment (if any) they would decide she deserved. So she turned to GenderGP and it was immediately clear how radically different their approach was. She was offered an "information-gathering session" with a counsellor, not an "assessment" by a doctor. She didn't have to prove she was trans. She just told the counsellor she was trans, and she was believed, and asked what help she needed. Any further questions were purely in the interests of ensuring she would get the right treatment for her individual situation, and this did include her medical profile; GenderGP aren't reckless with people's health. Most importantly, my partner was given all the information she needed to decide on her treatment, and she was trusted to use that information to make a decision. She was treated as an adult in control of her own life. Since starting hormone treatment almost a year ago, my partner has had regular blood tests as required by GenderGP, and medication changes have been made accordingly. Any concerns my partner had about the efficacy of a particular treatment have been responded to promptly and effectively. Hormone treatment has given my partner the confidence to have facial feminisation surgery which in turn has given her the confidence to live her reality as a woman in the world. Her mental health has improved beyond measure. If it hadn't been for GenderGP she would still be suffering treatment-resistant depression and watching the years pass knowing that her eventual transition under NHS care would be slow, degrading, out of her control and with reduced likelihood of her ever passing as a woman.

Please do not punish Dr Webberley for making it possible for women like my partner to finally recover from years of depression and live authentic lives.

Anon

I started socially transitioning when I was about to turn 12 years old. I went to my GP shortly after to be put on the waiting list for a gender clinic. I was put into cahms as my GP was under the impression that they dealt with gender and transitioning however, they do not. That was time wasted until my GP referred me to a gender clinic in Exeter. I was sent a letter from the clinic stating it would be a 9 month wait, this devastated me. I ended up waiting for 3 years to get my first appointment with the gender clinic not 9 months. Within this time I had no professional help or support and was severely depressed due to having to wait for so long. I felt alone and forgotten. I was 14 turning 15 when I was first seen. When talking with the gender therapists it was as though it was expected of me to have to prove to them that I am actually trans and that I deserve the 'help' they were providing me, despite me knowing who I was since I was 4-5 years old. I, a newly turned 15 year-old of course wanted to start hormone blockers. I had heard and seen that if someone is on hormone blockers for at least a year, when they turn 16 they are then put onto hormones. That was what I needed. But of course this never happened. Instead I was met with condescending voices and looks. It was almost a 'why would you want to go on blockers and hormones?' As if they couldn't hear my struggles and needs. The therapists would try and nitpick parts of my life and identity, essentially blaming parts of my life (that have no correlation) on why I may 'think' I'm trans. Which made me feel horrific. The 'support' that was offered, helped in no way at all. The whole process of the NHS was about proving I am trans to people that cannot hear. The whole process with the NHS gave me trauma and I know for a fact it's not just me who has been affected this way. The waiting list is terrible, especially when no outside support is offered. It's now up to a 5 - 6 year waiting list. This is abominable. Trans people are getting severely depressed and are ending their lives because they can't get the help that they need and deserve with these waiting times. But then again, it is incredibly hard to actually receive any help with the NHS, especially hormones or blockers. This is why I find it ridiculous when outsiders claim that it's easy to be put onto hormones or blockers, because it is absolutely not. This is another reason people end their lives or self-medicate. They expect to be supported and helped, expect to medically transition at 16 but are denied this.

On the 26th of July I turn 18 years old, it's also my 2 years on testosterone. I didn't believe I would make it to 16 let alone 18. I am living because of GenderGP, I would not be alive right now if it wasn't for GenderGP. I started testosterone when I was 16 with GenderGP. I had been waiting since I was 12 to get support and start medically transitioning, I got nothing from the NHS. Without the support of GenderGP I would not be here right now to celebrate my 18th. All I can say is thank you to Dr Helen Webberley and GenderGP. This service has saved hundreds of lives and continues to do so.

I have absolutely thrived from being able to access my life saving hormones. I am finally living. Thank you.

Philippa

My son has been able to access puberty blockers. It is unimaginable that we may not have been able to access these (fortunately we can afford to pay for them but not all can). The relief in my child knowing that his body was not going to develop any further as female has been marked. If we waited for NHS help he would have completed a female puberty by the time we would be seen and I cannot imagine how damaging this would be for his mental health

Adam

I researched private clinics a lot while waiting for the GLC, and decided to seek private healthcare in 2019. I reached out to two; GenderGP, and one based in Scotland. I initially went with the Scotland based clinic, and received a diagnosis, but they would not treat me based on my BMI. I then reached out to GenderGP, and before I joined I asked what their usual protocol is in my situation.

When I joined, I quickly had an information-gathering appointment, where I was listened to and treated kindly. Shortly after that, GenderGP offered me my prescription. They were open about the costs, and their website is easy to use, which made me confident I could seek help if I needed it at any point in my journey. I have been on hormone treatment for only two months now, and I have recently submitted blood tests - I find their communication to be excellent.

The resources offered on their website are informative, and easy enough for the average person to understand. They help people realise that some treatments are permanent, while others are not, and carry a wide variety of options for people to best match their gender.

I have found them to be one of the most understanding and inclusive health services I have used.

Jenna

Young Voice

Whilst I have not worked with Dr Webberley directly, her legacy has clearly been shown in the GenderGP foundation. Providing effective and accessible and affordable healthcare to those who really need it. This is what doctors should be doing, giving the patient freedom whilst ensuring their safety free of judgement and prejudice.

Dr Webberley has started a legacy through GenderGP that has helped countless individuals. I understand some of the hearings are regarding other things, however, whatever is to do with GenderGP should be looked at very closely because from a purely moral standpoint there is nothing wrong in trying to care for others who have very little support in the larger institutions and the wider society. If you were to suspend a doctor over caring for their patients when the NHS has turned their backs on them, then there is a much much larger flaw in the system that needs to be addressed

Anon

Young Voice

My son has been under the NHS Provisions for 5 years. Every hurdle, we've jumped, only to be told following the Keira Bell case, that help for my sons severe gender dysmorphia, was months away, (turned into a year and still counting)! I decided enough was enough and sought help elsewhere. This wasn't on a whim. I first met Dr Webberley in 2016 following a mermaids charity event and had kept informed and updated ever since. Within 4 months GGP helped my son and changed his life! I can't thank them enough, My son is happy, not withdrawn, or underperforming in school due to menstruating absences. He feels let down and lied to by the NHS and GGP changed his hopelessness mentality to hope! Everyone deserves hope that they can live a happy life!

Very professional and informative.

Excellent Service

Anon

Young Voice

When my child first expressed their gender dysphoria to me, I assumed from reading the NHS website that children with this experience usually were in distress of some sort and the condition was a temporary one. Based on this, it seemed that assessment and support would be provided to determine if they were in need of counseling or support. I was shocked to discover that there's a 3 year long waiting list, which they attempted to keep us off of by rejecting our referral for administrative reasons, multiple times, despite my GP surgery repeatedly resubmitting the information they requested in the required formats. In the year that has followed the only contact we have had has been rejection and eventual acknowledgment of our referral, and recently a letter asking if we still wanted to remain on the list. No assessment, no support, no informational materials on how to support a gender diverse child, no pamphlets on what the service would entail if we ever reach the top of the list. Nothing.

Further research has revealed to me that the NHS services, aside from simply being completely inaccessible to us, are not fit for purpose and, by not keeping up with global best practice and evidence-based care, are indeed causing harm to trans people, and especially to trans children. In an environment where trans children have suddenly had medical care pulled out from under the, because the Tavistock has not kept appropriate records of efficacy, trans children's short and long-term mental health are being actively damaged by the NHS. Lack of knowledge and education in government services surrounding trans identity and global best practice (both within the NHS and within social services) has caused emotional trauma to both myself and my child, which I feel has been in contravention of our rights under gender identity legislation. Our only choice, if private care is effectively banned from the UK is to continue to engage with harmful and neglectful NHS care or to go without care or support of any kind.

It is my understanding that Dr Webberley's company, GenderGP, is currently providing the highest quality care for trans people by applying globally recognized best practice. As I see it, there are currently no NHS services which currently apply evidence-based care or which avoid causing harm to the trans people in their care. In my mind, the service that Dr. Webberley and GenderGP provided has been a lifeline to trans people by actively avoiding patient harm and appropriately applying evidence-based care.

Feeling that it would help my gender diverse child to have someone to talk to about their feelings, and for myself to know how best to support them, I decided to try friends and family counseling offered as one of GenderGP's services. We did the sessions by Skype and I was able to book the sessions within two weeks of seeking them. We determined that my child was happy in themselves as they were currently well-supported by being allowed to socially transition. I followed up with booking some support sessions for myself to deal with some of the stressful emotions brought up by being the parent of a gender diverse child. The counselor was warm and professional, and I felt instantly supported and at ease with them. It was a helpful short term solution based talking therapy, and I would highly recommend their care. If my child feels they want to access further support or medical services from them in the future, I would not hesitate to access GenderGP again. They are giving gold standard care and applying globally recognised best practices with regards to the care of transgender children and adults and their families.

Julius

Young Voice

I have not met with or spoken to Dr Webberley personally, but I am inclined to believe that her work has benefited many working class transgender citizens through removing the red tape that is long waiting lists, medical gatekeeping, and abysmal costs. I cannot ignore what this clinic has done for me. My mood has been the most stable it could be in years, and my energy levels are finally high enough that I can actually exercise and actively maintain my own health, instead of slipping into long episodes of depression due to dysphoria. To construct a clinic for the benefit of people like me does not signal the work of a misguided or careless practitioner, but a forward-thinking doctor that takes medical apartheid into account.

GenderGP is the first private UK provider of trans healthcare I've seen that doesn't phenomenally overcharge you. I live with my family, have a part-time job on minimum wage (I'm 21) and I go to university. I can still afford this. Granted, my parents both have permanent jobs, but they both work for the NHS which is phenomenally underfunded so I don't think they earn quite enough. As such, I do not blame the clinic for charging money for these rarely-provided services, but their affordability is a deeply-rooted problem that needs to be rectified. The cost of trans healthcare is only as high as it is right now because of UK government austerity, and poor trans kids, especially those of a BAME background, cannot access the correct information and healthcare in order to improve the quality of their lives, thus leaving them at risk of poor mental and physical health. I suffered so much on my own before seeking support with GenderGP, as I was and still am pursuing my studies, and on top of that I had to deal with the stress of fitting in with "English" society. I've lived in the UK for a full decade now and I still don't feel like I belong, but having my gender affirmed through hormones and proper communication with a clinic willing to put in the effort for me FOR ONCE was one of the best things that has ever happened to me.

I am a Southeast-Asian trans man. I would like to further add that due to the history of structural racism in the NHS, the entire UK medical field and historically discriminatory measures of health like the BMI, has led to the inability of BAME patients to advocate for themselves and receive the correct treatment. I think that it is an insult to BAME workers and children of BAME workers to deny them accessible healthcare, especially when foreign nurses and healthcare assistants like my mother are the backbone of the NHS and haven't even received an inch of that reprehensible 1% pay rise. My mother and father, who are both on their feet 24/7 treating and diagnosing patients, exposing themselves to COVID-19, never got an extra penny, never complain when yet another colleague screws up a phlebotomy and they have to take significant time out of their break to help. I don't just know that injustice in the British health care system exists, I live it. More needs to be done, and the existence of GenderGP is only the beginning of this fight.

Jennifer

Young Voice

The nhs have waiting lists that are to long for children and adults awaiting help concerning their gender this needs to change. My ftm son jordan will be on the waiting list until he is at least 24 and he is 17 now!. This needs to change.

I think the work is amazing and a lifeline for a lot of people with gender identity issues

Just to say how thankful i am to GenderGP becaise without them my son and thousands of other may not be here or may be in a very dark place

Anon

Young Voice

My child has been identifying as male since they were eight and they are now 15, the excessively long waiting lists for GIDs and lack of support at a local area coupled with the centralised funding of trans healthcare means that trans children and their families are left with no viable options in the public sector. The latest Bell court case, COVID and the rise of transphobia increases the anxiety and stress experienced by our kids and often leads them into declining mental health. My child had a number of suicide attempts and crippling anxiety caused by the gender dysphoria thus we felt we were left with no option but to explore the private route.

I have no direct experience but her team have been awesome and her philosophy and pro trans stance we support and admire wholeheartedly.

We have been highly impressed with both the compassion and professionalism shown by GenderGP, they follow the WPATH guidelines to the letter and take every effort to protect both the physical and mental health of my child. They are keen to work with our GP and we have made a request for shared care which is being considered by our surgery.

GenderGP have saved my child's life - he's gone from repeated suicide and self harm attempts to nothing in the time he has been on testosterone. We feel like we have our old child back and we can all see a future for him. Everyone who has worked with him ie. CAMHS, education and social care can see the transformation which has been nothing short of miraculous.

Anon

My experience with GenderGP thus far has been amazing.

I feel their approach to assessment and treatment has been thorough. I like the fact that you get to speak to a gender specialist counsellor for assessment rather than wait for a lengthily two part psychiatric assessment with a years gap. The support and patient care has been amazing.

Imagine if someone with chronic depression and sleep disruption was told it would take up to five years or perhaps never to get help?

Fact is without services like GenderGP I'd be faced with DIY medication shipped from abroad and worrying about harming myself with potential counterfeit medication. Not to mention the medication from these pharmacies used by the DIY community are extremely limited. With GenderGP I can get prescription medication from a UK pharmacy and not have to worry.

It's truly an invaluable life changing service.

Anon

Our experience so far of the NHS has been terrible. Tavistock Leeds has paused my daughters treatment when she was just about to be referred for endocrinologist for puberty blockers because of a court case. My daughter was very low and feeling suicidal because of this, without the help of GenderGP which Dr Webberly set up we wouldn't have been able to access any treatment and she would have gone through male puberty. To this day we still haven't been referred which is in my view negligence on the NHS part.

Dr Webberley understands what trans children need and how best to give the treatment to them.

I first saw her speak in 2015 at a mermaids meeting, she could see the failing of the NHS for trans children and adults and set up GenderGP to provide a service that the NHS aren't providing. We have been with GenderGP for a year now and have had to provide evidence and have meetings to be on the correct treatment. They follow the guidance and provide a service that works for my daughter's needs. I can't fault them, my daughter would not be where she is today without Dr Webberley and GenderGP.

Anon

The NHS waiting list is upwards of five years long at this point. I've been referred to Tavistock but that is as far as I have got with them. It's a disgrace for the NHS to deny us access to life saving treatment. If it wasn't for GenderGP, I don't know if I would still be here today. Who is the NHS to tell me I don't know my own gender and force me to wait years just to begin the process of the NHS deciding whether to give me what I need or not? Dr Webberley is simply providing us with the service that the NHS has failed in. I've had no direct experience with her but I know that what she is doing and what she created is saving hundreds of lives of transgender people who are unable to access the treatment they need on the NHS.

GenderGP are a kind and compassionate company who listened to me and believed me when I said that HRT is what I needed.

They didn't try to tell me that I was something else or force me to wait months in order to access their care. They spoke to me one on one, about my gender identity, what that meant for me and what I needed to aid my transition. They listened to me about how I felt and I felt valued in their care.

Andrea

GenderGP has held my hands throughout my journey - provided me with so much information, care, and love that I thought it would be impossible to receive. I am who I am today because of the service created and delivered by Dr Webberley.

She is not a risk to patients - in fact she is saving patients.

Paula

Please keep Dr Webberley and this service running

She has helped me become the woman I was born to be

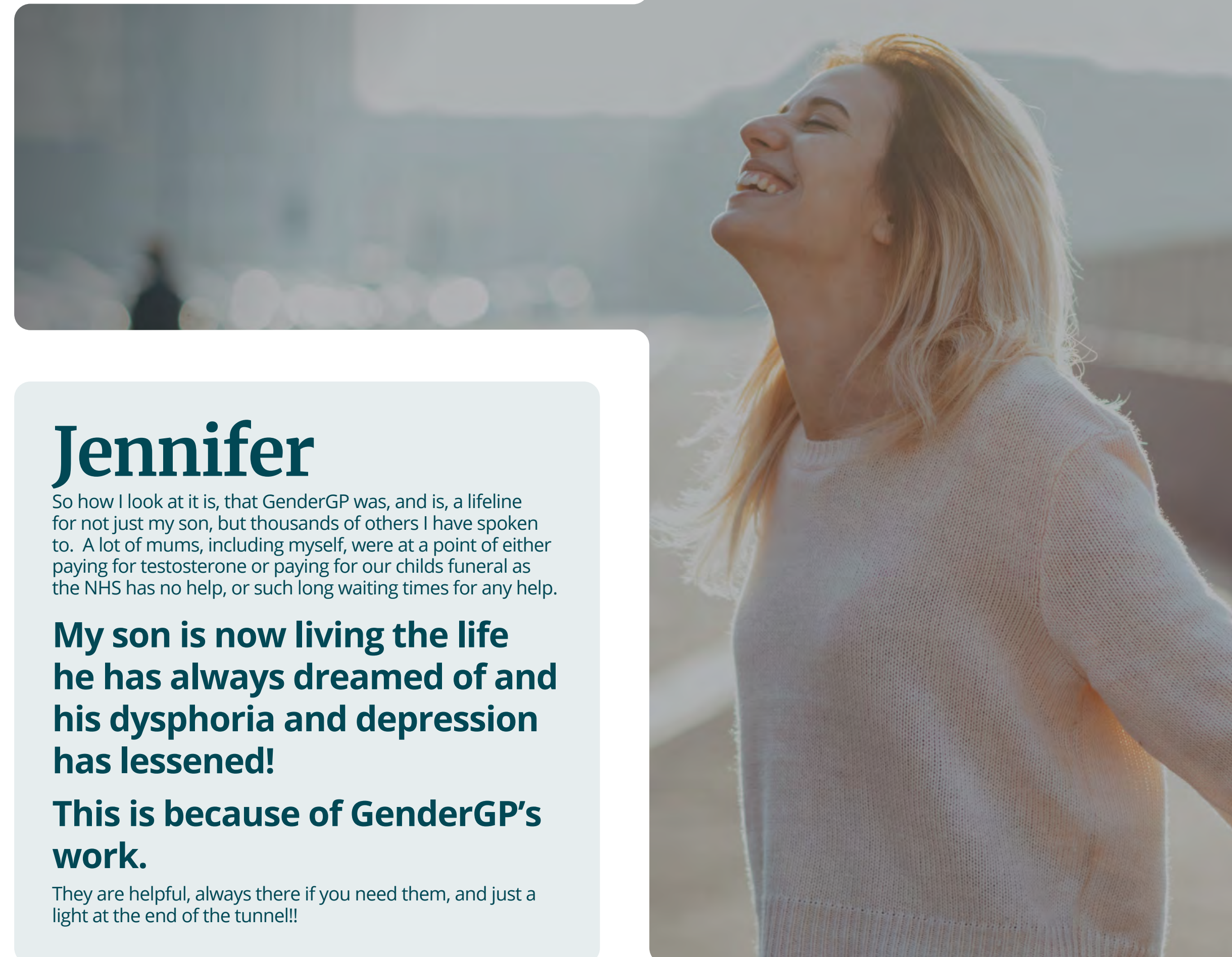
Jennifer

So how I look at it is, that GenderGP was, and is, a lifeline for not just my son, but thousands of others I have spoken to. A lot of mums, including myself, were at a point of either paying for testosterone or paying for our child's funeral as the NHS has no help, or such long waiting times for any help.

My son is now living the life he has always dreamed of and his dysphoria and depression has lessened!

This is because of GenderGP's work.

They are helpful, always there if you need them, and just a light at the end of the tunnel!!



Jenna

NHS routes for trans people are near impossible to bear, there are ridiculously long waiting times and a plethora of hurdles one needs to jump before getting a single appointment in which there is very little actual substance and is rather seen as a 'test' as to whether the patient is 'trans enough' or not. My experience was a 2 year wait in order to get a few appointments spaced months apart from each other, all of which amounted to nothing. In those 2 years, I was given 0 support from school, family or NHS and was forced to take care of myself. As a young teenager, nobody should have to go through that and if the NHS waiting times were reduced it could really change the lives of countless individuals, I only wish that I was able to be confident to live as myself earlier and not be condemned for my choices.

A pillar of the NHS is to 'do the patient no harm' however I can say for a fact that my time spent with the NHS was detrimental for my familial bonds and personal identity. Literally, the ONLY advice I was given was ""wait"" , which as a teen going through puberty knowing that my bodily changes that I hated could be prevent was heartbreaking. The NHS's system of support for trans people and trans youth in particular needs to have a very drastic change because as it is now, it will cause more pain and heartbreak for an already overly oppressed minority group.

GenderGP has literally been a lifesaver,

not only for me but for many people that I know personally and I'm sure for many others too. They took time to get to know me and gave me the space and opportunity to know myself. Unlike the NHS, there isn't any judgement of one's identity but rather an exploration into what treatments would be best for the patient. And perhaps most importantly, giving the patient their own freedom to decide what they want for themselves. Despite the fundamental rule of patient autonomy, I feel as though I was never given this choice under the NHS.



Francesca

MY GP refuses to prescribe hormones for me as a result of reading adverse publicity against Dr Webberley on google. My GP does permit my blood tests to be done through the NHS,

I have now been on hormones from GenderGP for over a year, which has transformed my life.

I am on the waiting list at the GIC, I have already been on it for 18 months and I have been told I will have to wait a minimum of another 2 1/2 years before I can get my first appointment with them. This is an outrage, we need Doctors like Helen Webberley to help fill this astonishing gap in our healthcare. The GMC guidelines allow GPs to at least offer bridging prescriptions and have a duty of care to people like me, who are left to struggle on our own. Please let Dr Webberley carry on her great work, lives depend on it.



August

My personal experience with GenderGP has honestly been groundbreaking. I've never encountered a trans healthcare provider that was so openminded and available, as well as professional and eager to help with any queries I had. From the day I started my HRT treatment until today,

I've been so much more comfortable and confident in day-to-day life and I owe it all to GenderGP.

If anything I wish they had more international influence so I could fully transition through GenderGP, instead of just getting HRT from them.

Anon

I fell out of a tree and broke my foot four years ago and was whisked away by paramedics within minutes. I was operated on by a surgeon the following day which was a Sunday to ensure my chance of a full recovery was high. If I did not receive immediate care I probably would have ended up walking with a limp. I don't have a limp. My child was suffering from extreme anxiety because of the impending arrival of puberty and his desire not to change into a woman. Puberty blockers allow us the time to seek professional advice and to keep our child from going over the waterfall of the unknown. By not allowing loving parents access to such medication for our child my next step would be to access it via whatever means possible. This daft decision by the courts means that the supply of drugs to halt puberty will probably move underground away from the safety of health professionals.

Anon

When I first called for help from the NHS, it was 5 years ago. they said they'd put me on a waiting list. I was told waiting up to two years is normal, so I waited patiently, despite the desire to cease existing I kept holding out for that one appointment that could change my life. I am a low income person, finding work where I am not in the eye of the public due to my dysphoria is difficult, thus I move every year to more affordable housing options. My details for the referral were lost twice. That's four years of waiting for naught, having to start all over. I was devastated and started looking into ways to self-medicate but luckily I was directed to GenderGP, who while still is taxing on my limited budget, has facilitated my access to hormones. I'd gladly skip a few meals for that.

I can safely say that without GenderGP, I would either be carelessly self medicating without supervision, or dead.

Anon

GenderGP honestly, changed my life,

I was prescribed hormones in October 2020, whereas waiting for the GICs, I will be waiting potentially another three years, even though I have been on the waiting list since June 2018. I had some counseling through GenderGP, who helped me somewhat get past my "imposter syndrome" which many trans people face, she never pushed me in any direction however allowed me to just explore myself and my experiences as a person. Being prescribed hormones was reasonably straightforward, and taking them has been an incredibly positive experience for me, I could not thank GenderGP enough.

Anon

I was on a waiting list for Tavistock for 3 years then by the time I got an appointment I was too old to be seen by them so they referred me to a different clinic that had another 3 year waiting list which I think was very unfair on that part

GenderGP is a fantastic healthcare provider for trans people

after feeling so defeated by the NHS put me on a second waiting list GenderGP gave me hope and actually provided me the healthcare I needed and I am so thankful that GenderGP exists or I might not have been here if they didn't



Amanda

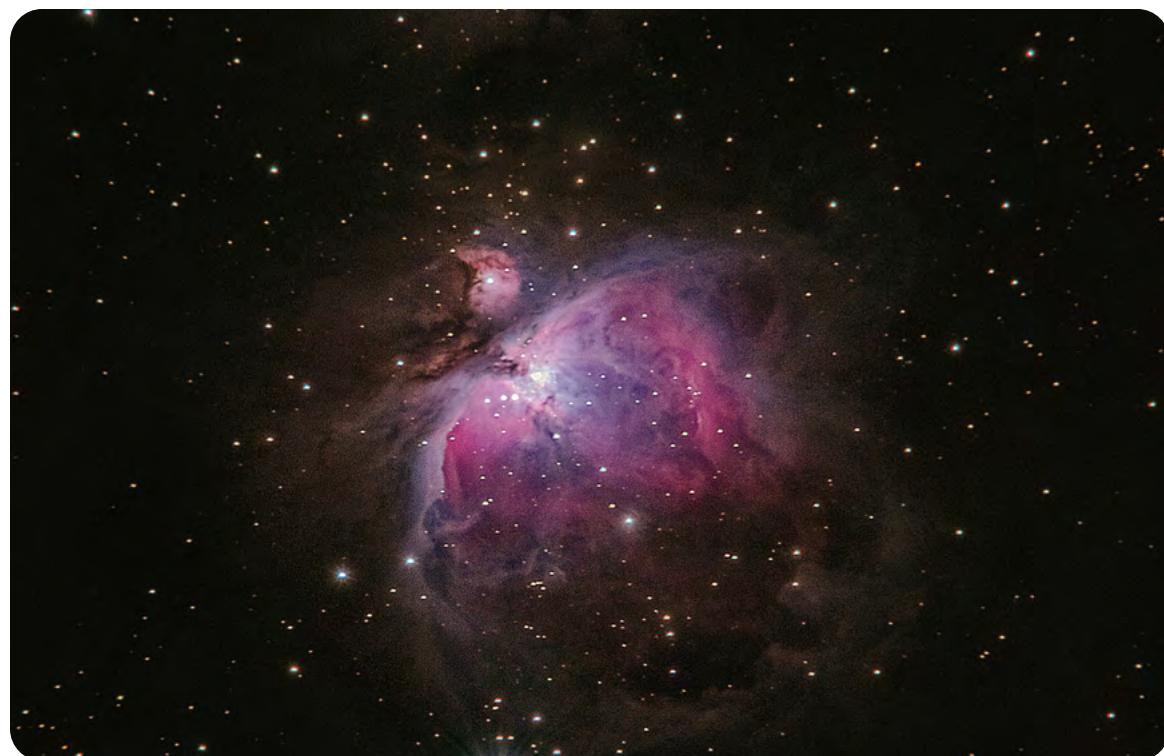
Young Voice

My daughter was referred to GIDS in August 2018 aged 14.5 years old. She was suffering from anxiety and would make herself sick every night especially when she had 'wet dreams' her stress was immense. She has had her first appointment with GIDS after a 3 year wait !! She was told at this appointment that she would now be referred to adult services and the wait on any adult service is 4 years. So even if they take into consideration her 3 year wait she still will not be seen by the NHS for at least 4 years. Well outside of any wait times and certainly not within 18 weeks of referral.

Dr Webberley provided my daughter with a life ! If we had had to wait 4 years the chances are my daughter would have killed herself.

Dr Webberley is kind, considerate, emphatic and provides necessary life saving care.

GenderGP treat people as individuals with individuals needs. They provide counselling and informative advice before any decisions are made. They ensure that anyone undertaking treatment understands the pros and cons and are of a position to make factual decisions. They have ensured any treatment has been made by my daughter and that she has appropriate support in place.



Anon

Young Voice

Discriminatory, no other NHS service would be allowed to challenge children over 14 to not confirm their own views on treatment all other services agree that if a child has Gillick competency they can access treatment so why are transgender children treated differently

I have confidence in her professional understanding and delivery she's a competent and understanding dr who seeks to treat all her patients fairly and in the most respectfully ways

Fantastic they have supported us as a family we have a great understanding and they have given us the opportunity to support our child in the most appropriate way allowing them to access treatment and prevented further mental health crisis GGP are open honest and informative the whole service is outstanding and im grateful we found them because without the service my child would be caused undue suffering that wouldn't be allowed anywhere else in the medical service

Anon

Young Voice

My son attended gids in London for 18 months. During that time he was told "you idolise your brother, that's why you want to be a boy" they sent him for asc assessment, which was turned down as he didn't present as even borderline. He was refused puberty blockers while he "explored" his gender. The clinicians didn't appear to listen to anything myself or my son told them.

My son saw Dr Mike Webberley, as Helen was already under investigation when I discovered these wonderful people.

They saved my son!!

The clinicians listened to him, and accepted what we both had to say. They have provided support and prescribed medication after meeting with us & exploring my sons thoughts & wishes. My son has now progressed to taking testosterone (he is mtf) it has totally changed him, I don't mean physically, although it has! He is loads happier in himself & happier with how he looks. He has a long way to go still, he's almost 17, but GenderGP have been a life line. I can't thank them enough

Just a huge thank you for understanding and providing treatment

Sarah

Young Voice

Not good. My Dr refuses to acknowledge any kind of medical intervention for my 14 year old transgender daughter. It's wrong.

I haven't had any experience with Dr Webberley as yet... I think what she does for the trans community is very much needed. Drs don't seem to be trained or experienced with the trans community which is ever growing.... It's time that it was addressed, I shouldn't have to feel uncomfortable seeking help for my transgender 14 year old.

We are very new to this service but I can only see positive things so far. They operate a very thorough information gathering service and are there to guide and advice with no prejudice or doubt.



Sheryl

Young Voice

Dr. Webberley is a genuinely kind, sincere, sensitive and understanding person who has literally saved our son's - and many others - lives.

GenderGP are a long established, efficient, thorough and understanding service who put the NHS to shame. They are life savers.

Anon

Young Voice

I was referred to GIDS in 2017, when I was 13 years old. I received my first GIDS appointment in 2020, when I was 16 years old. This is completely unacceptable as puberty can finish in this span of time; the fact that even a bridging puberty blocker prescription from my GP was not available (& refused when I asked for either a bridging prescription or shared care) is an appalling indictment of the state of transgender healthcare in this country, and the Conservative Party's continued defunding of the NHS.

When I saw GIDS, they refused to give me any treatment. They insisted that I go off of testosterone if I wanted NHS puberty blockers, despite GIDS knowing full well that it is dangerous to do that, given that I would be using the men's toilets whilst experiencing periods again if I went off of testosterone. They also insisted upon a year of just puberty blockers without testosterone for me, despite the effects that would have on bone density, and the complete lack of a logical justification for that. This firstly breaks NHS policy in that GICs cannot ask patients to go off of HRT they have started privately, and secondly, the supposed logic behind the "year on just blockers" rule is to ensure that patients do not regret HRT. This logic would not apply in my case as I had already been on testosterone for two years when I saw GIDS for the first time. GIDS's treatment of me was simply an exercise in cruelty and an example of the government's continued attempt on all trans people's lives.

N/A; Dr Helen Webberley was suspended by the time I saw GenderGP, and I was seen by Dr Mike Webberley instead.

In late 2017, when I was 13 years old, I approached GenderGP in my pursuit of testosterone. As opposed to the NHS, GenderGP worked with me, not against me, and I always got the impression that they were trying to get me testosterone as soon as possible; I received the opposite impression from the NHS. I received testosterone from GenderGP when I was 14, which saved my life. I would not be testifying today if I had not received those hormones at that time.

Before approaching GenderGP, I had located a source of black market testosterone and was intending upon using that. If GenderGP shut down, I would not stop taking testosterone; I would simply obtain it from more dangerous sources. Although, I do not think the government would have an issue with that; after all, the government's policies make it more than abundantly clear that their goal is nothing short of the death of all trans people.

One common objection to providing life-saving healthcare for children is that the effects of this healthcare are permanent. It is deeply ironic that these murderers speak of the permanence of saving lives, because it is surely far more permanent to end a life. Something which afflicts trans youth at a far higher rate than surgery or hormones is suicide. Trans children who commit suicide did not kill themselves. They were murdered. The UK government has placed these innocent children in positions where their conditions are so unbearable that they are driven to suicide. This is a sneaky manoeuvre, because it is a murder of omission rather than commission, though murder it is nevertheless.

The rate of desistance for both adolescents AND adults is, by a margin of error, 0. The government may claim to simply be following scientific guidance, but in actuality, the UK has one of the strictest policies on healthcare for trans children in the entire world. It is pure British chauvinism to pretend that the UK simply respects science more than any other country; the UK does listen to science, but it uses this science to kill trans people, rather than to save them. The UK government is more than well aware of the science; they have simply decided to use this knowledge against us.

Jessica

GenderGP has been a life saver for me.

They are understanding, and paitent. Any questions are answered quickly and thoroughly. They have resources and knowledge. They even wrote a letter to my GP for shared care.

Evelyn

We contacted GenderGP 3 months after our child came out to us. We had by now learned we would have a minimum 15 month wait for the NHS first appointment, with assessment expected to take at least another 6 months. He was already suffering with the ramifications of puberty, missing school every month and withdrawing from friends and family. We knew he couldn't wait that length of time without medical help, so we reached out to GenderGP. We spent the next 5 months in consultation with them and undergoing tests. It was not a fast process. We had all the time we needed to reflect on all the ramifications, and our consent was very much informed. Since then we have been under regular review both physically and mentally. We know we can reach out at any time with any questions. The online video interviews have been very successful. Appointments are scheduled to suit us, and it is more comfortable to be in your own home environment than in a clinic. Video assessments are now also being used by the NHS gender clinic of course. 27 months with GenderGP and our son is thriving. He has excellent school attendance, plays sport again, has a full circle of friends, and has been awarded all 7 of his National 5 school exams, 4 A's and 3 B's. (Scottish equivalent of O levels). He runs the school LGBTQI+ group. Next year he will do 5 Higher level exams and wants to go to university to become a Music Therapist. We have GenderGP to thank for all of that. My son is still waiting on treatment from the NHS, 3 years after joining their waiting list.

I cannot imagine that my child would still be attending school or have any quality of life right now if it wasn't for the bravery and professional integrity of Dr Webberley and the GenderGP team. We will be forever grateful that we made the decision to contact them. We consider ourselves so lucky to have had their professional support at a time when the NHS gender service has collapsed into non existence. The NHS has sadly failed our children and left our families isolated and abandoned, and I say that as someone who has worked proudly for the NHS for 32 years. The NHS protocol is not working and needs desperately to be updated to reflect equality of access for trans people. Being born transgender is NOT a psychiatric illness or diagnosis and medical care should not be dependant on psychiatrists. GP's should absolutely be able to give access to front line treatment for trans people the same way they are capable of treating asthma or diabetes without a consultant's opinion. Puberty blockers are there to give the young person time. GP's should be able to prescribe them while the patient is waiting for the gender clinic. The UK medical profession needs to confront it's continued reluctance to help trans people, and consider why it is determined to block access to treatment. If the doctor's oath is to do no harm, why does the UK profession continually withhold access? This is causing untold harm to our young people. Informed consent is used everywhere else in the NHS, but not for trans people. The GMC should examine their own role in preventing care for transgender people. They should be reflecting on the harm caused by that.

Anon

I was referred to the Tavistock and Portman GIDS in 2015. I was seen in 2017, but was sent away with no treatment because by the time I was seen, I was too old for the service. I have since been referred to the Charing Cross Gender Identity Clinic with priority. My appointment is still over a year away.

Had I not signed up for GenderGP's services, I would have waited over 6 years for any form of treatment on the NHS. The NHS gender services waiting times go against the GMC guidelines.

Anon

The waiting lists to transition on the NHS made me attempt suicide. They've made my friends commit suicide. They are years and years long, and once you finally get an appointment you're put somewhere else on another waiting list. I had waited seven long years before going to GenderGP and it has saved my life, without their services, me, and a lot of other trans peoples lives would be in jeopardy. We should not have to wait years for vital medication, and GenderGP is the only thing helping us with that.

GenderGP are one of the most thorough trans healthcare providers I have ever come across.

The confidentiality is incredibly trustworthy and they listen, and that's the most important thing for me. They make sure you are safe, they make sure that transitioning is definitely what you want, and then once they get the go ahead, they go at a pace that works with you, for me and a lot of others, it was a very fast pace but it was the best care I have ever received, it made me feel like I wasn't disregarded finally, after the NHS had completely thrown me aside for seven years. They made sure they knew exactly what I wanted, and didn't want, and worked around me and it was so genuinely nice to be cared for.

Sarah

Having been with GenderGP for nearly three years the experience has been nothing but fantastic, from all of the support through to counselling. Again no gatekeeping they are there to help to bring the best out of the new you.

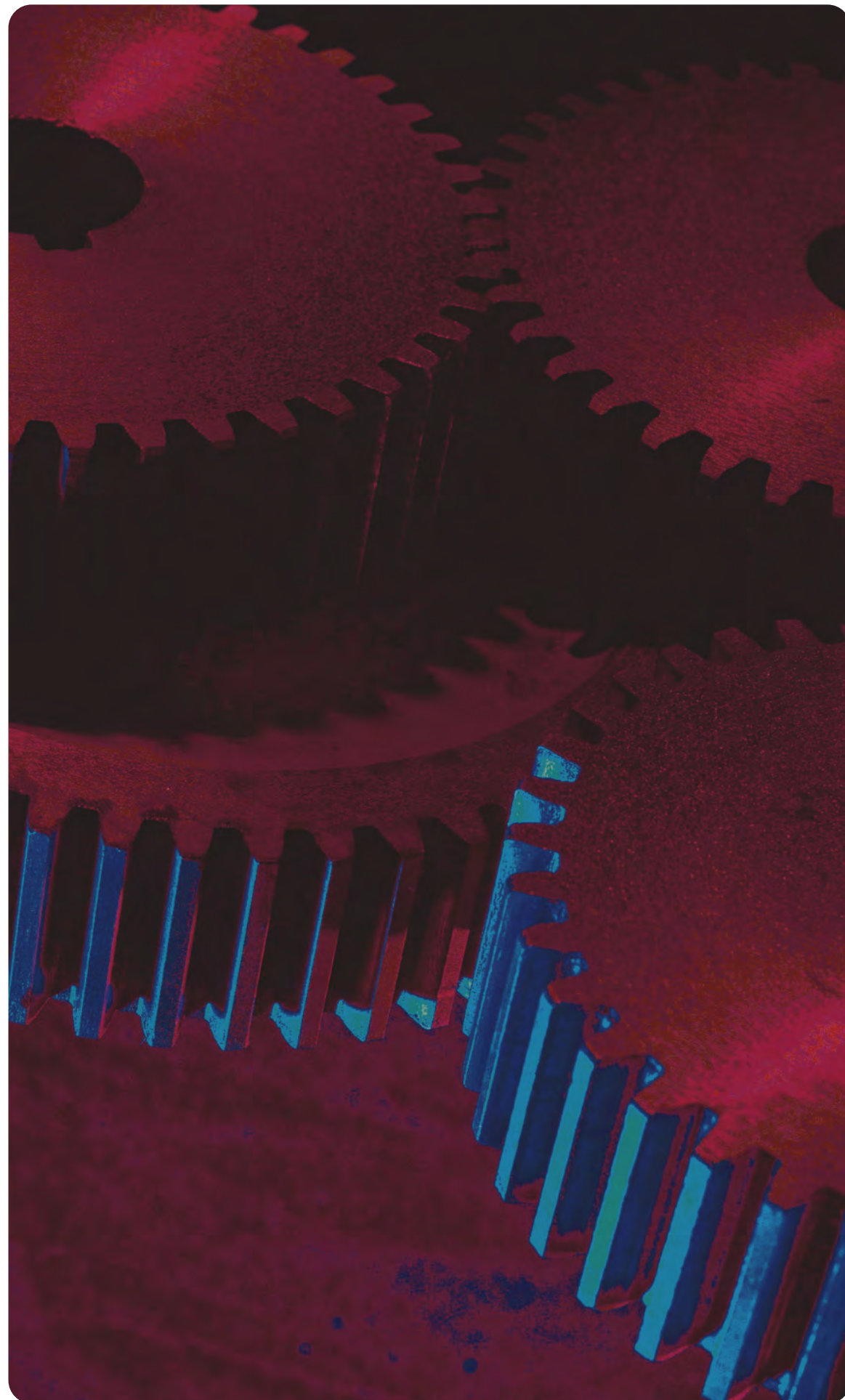


Skyla

After giving up on the NHS I began looking for healthcare independently, resting my hopes on a razor blade. At length I eventually stumbled upon GenderGP. I was amazed at the due care and attention I received, the safety and warmth that allowed me to talk openly for the first time, that someone was talking to me not my peripheral condition. They even accommodated my financial circumstances. They have given me an escape route from the boundaries set by the established understanding of sex & gender, based solely on genitalia, to a place many are terrified, but to women such as I, and our trans male counterparts, salvation.

The attacks made upon Dr Webberley are direct attacks upon my healthcare and all patients, which the NHS cannot compete with nor compensate. The lack of specialists on gender within the NHS testifies the lack of concern for my community and is reflected in these attacks. The treatment I have received from the NHS regarding my condition, the public emphasis on safeguarding individuals from necessary treatment, and the continued hindrance on Dr Webberley's work, I find diabolical.

The medication I have been provided has allowed me to find serenity in my body and mind, it has influenced my physical shape closer to that which I was deprived in my teenage years. Only the mirror can reflect how I feel, the life that has been returned to me, and the woman who almost never made it out alive.



Anon

I was in GIDS from the ages of 12 to 16 and due to constant bureaucracy, avoiding questions and lack of communication I was unable to begin my medical transition even after 4 years of seeing the gender specialists. When I was aproved to start blockers, but only after crying for an hour about how I just wanted to be normal boy and how my dysphoria had made me so suicidal that it lead me to be an inpatient at a psychiatric hospital twice when I was 12, the process was so poorly communicated and lengthy that it took 6 months to even have an appointment with an endocrinologist. By then coronavirus caused the uk into lockdown and any hope of starting blockers was pushed back to when ever possible. When my endocrinologist appointment was cancelled they didnt even tell me. My appointment was then moved from march to September where I felt my first ever glimer of hope that something might actually happen and i would be able to start my medical transtion. However due to the ruling banning blockers, yet again another attack on the trans community but even more disgustingly this time an attack on its most vulnerable children, I was unable to go forward dispite being over 16 as they were unclear what the procedure would be. Due to my 4 years of waiting and constant, tiresome doubing of my identity that made me feel like all my bodily autonomy had been stripped away from me as if i was too crazy to even know who i was

i decided to go to GenderGP. That decision was the best decision in my life for my mental and physical health.

Due to them being the only clinic which provides care to under 18s i can honestly say their service is lifesaving. I should also note that i did not want to go on hormone blockers as i had already finished puberty as verified from a doctor, i had to go on blockers to start testosterone as i was under 18. However i view this decision as harmful and unnecessary as it lengthens the time when i could start testosterone.

Ive had a lovely time with GenderGP due to the feeling of actually being listened for the first time in my life. Being able to talk to Mariannes Oakes was incredibly positive and uplifting as seeing a trans person who is able to live past their 30s gives me hope that i can do the same. Their care is excellent as it rels on informed concent which not only speeds up the process but makes me truely aware and knowledgeable about the care i am reciving. Without GenderGP my life would be in danger due to the mental torment of gender dysphoria but also being seen as a trans male by socioty rather than a cis male, this puts me in a higher risk of hate crimes including assult and rape. Starting testosterone has given me a whole new kind confidence which has helped me feel free in my body rather than confined.

The trans community need to be seen as people rather than a political tool.

Anon

My experience with the nhs was bad, the waiting lists are too long and there are so many unnecessary boundaries to go through before you can start your transition and after years of waiting your still not guaranteed to get on hormones. the lack of support on the nhs there is for trans people is terrible the long waiting lists are costing many trans people their lives or trauma of having to go though the wrong puberty knowing it's wrong for them. there is a huge lack of support and going with the nhs left me feeling hopeless when i realised just how long it would be until i could feel confident as me.

I haven't had any direct experiences with Dr helen webberley but as the founder of GenderGP i can guarantee there have been lives saved by this organisation by providing quick and easy access to the path that is right for each individual trans person who uses this system

my experience with GenderGP so far has been great with short waiting times and lots of support available i know how much my confidence has gone up as being me which pre hormones dealing with dysphoria some days was unmanageable i now have so many more moments of gender euphoria and that is something i am so glad for thanks to GenderGP. starting T has changed my life for the better and i am thankful to GenderGP for giving me this opportunity.

Anon

Healthcare for transitioning (HRT, surgery etc) is subject to horrendous wait times. General healthcare (outside of specifically trans healthcare) is an absolute minefield and I've been constantly made uncomfortable and even discriminated against in the past, particularly in gynaecological care. I, like many others, are very reluctant to go and see doctors about issues like this.

GenderGP have been absolutely supportive and provide sessions to discuss any range of issues related to gender and transitioning. Marianne was very reassuring when I discussed my surgery referral with her, and I came out of the consultation confident to take the next steps. I'm now due to have surgery later this year.

The team at GenderGP are lifesavers.

They've provided an alternative service where the NHS have let us down, and I'm absolutely confident in them and my wellbeing under their care.

Louis

GenderGP saved my life.

When I asked my GP surgery to share the care with GenderGP they said they won't because Dr Webberley wasn't registered with the GMC, they also told me that GenderGP should not be operating. The truth is, the NHS gender clinics are not operating so what choice is there left for me and other trans people in the UK. The NHS promise to treat every patient with dignity and respect and that no one will be "discriminated against on any grounds including age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation.". But, for years now, transgender people in the UK have been discriminated by the NHS, we are considered as second-class citizens because no one will advocate for us, no one want to help us, we are not treated with dignity nor respect. The only people who want to help us are people in the private sector, and even if people motivation can be questionable for some, the private sector, and GenderGP saved my life. I tried to take my own life 3 months ago, because I didn't see a future with this body, I couldn't bear be seen as a woman and because I don't have 5 years to waste waiting for an NHS appointment, have you tried to spend 5 years as someone you are not? The NHS promise a maximum waiting list for non-urgent treatment of 18 weeks. Per their website, as of October 2020, the GIC was booking appointment for people who were referred to the service in October 2017. And this is for the initial appointment, the second appointment, where you can hopefully go on hormones replacement therapy will happen "up to twelve months after your first appointment", for a lot of people that second appointment happened later than the twelve months advertised. The NHS also say that transgender people can be more fragile and more exposed to depression, low self esteem and anxiety. Those three leads to self-harm and suicide. How many trans people do you need to kill themselves before anyone take action? How many trans youth will have to take their own live until someone hear them?

If the NHS doesn't have the money to fund a better gender identity clinic, why are you blocking the only affordable private clinic that can help us?

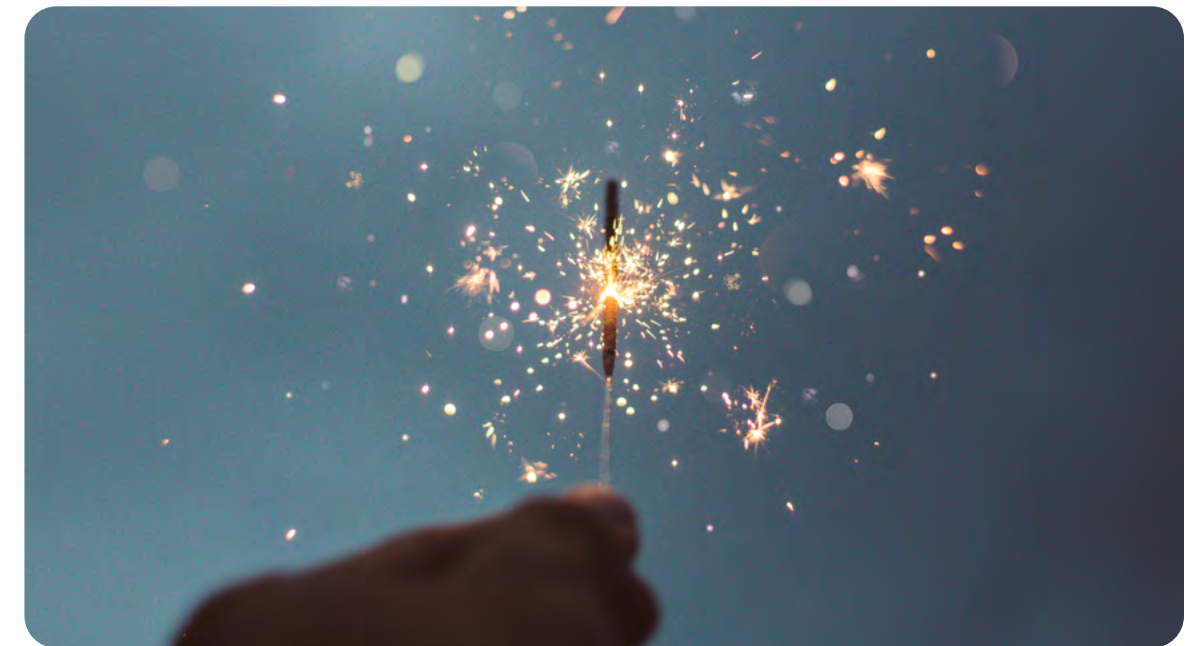
Thanks to Dr Webberly and her team I am now on hormones replacement therapy, I am finally seeing a future for myself, a future

that I couldn't see 2 months ago because as I mention before, I do not have 5 years. I am angry because so many other trans people can't afford to go private, and they might be thinking that they don't have a future. They do have one, this future is with GenderGP.

Anon

GenderGP were able to treat me within months. After years of painful waiting for the NHS, they were a godsend. I was able to discuss what I wanted from my transition and explain my journey with my gender, finally feeling like a professional cared. GenderGP were able to prescribe me hormones within a couple months and my life has changed because of that. Their service has allowed me to truly live my life to a much fuller extent,

I finally feel happy.



Anon

Without GenderGP my son would have had to struggle with his gender dysphoria for many more years, with the associated risks of self harm or worse. The NHS could not be of any assistance and would have put my sons health and safety at severe risk. My son in particular and I found

the treatment by GenderGP and Dr Webberley extremely professional.

Without the help from GenderGP and Dr Webberley I believe that my son's mental health would have deteriorated significantly, with potentially life threatening consequences. We explored all routes within the NHS to get the help he needed, but none was available in the timeframe needed to avoid a deterioration of his mental health. I consider GenderGP and Dr Webberley absolute life savers.

Anon

Young Voice

My son has not conformed to his assigned gender since he was 3, so when he came out aged 8 we were not surprised at all.

I quickly found out that the waiting list for the one and only NHS clinic was a very long 8 months (at that time) so we got him on it ASAP. I also found out that the assessment process was long and therefore wanted to get that underway so that when puberty hit, if my son needed it, help would be in a timely manner, ie, assessment done ready for referral to endocrinology.

Nearly 5 years on, my son is nearly 13, in the full throws of puberty and the assessment has, literally last month, been finished (1st draft). It says that my son has gender dysphoria and that they would recommend a referral to endocrinology. (It took them 5years worth of appointments???)

Getting to this point has been hard. We have frequently asked for practical support but have received none, no leaflets of organisations, no contacts to councillors, no liaising with teachers or gp to get help there.

We have frequently asked what the path way is and how long things will take and have never been given a solid answer,

We have frequently asked about side affects, gamete storage etc and have been given some answers but also been advised to “google it” which I found disgusting.

Our clinicians (of which there have been 5), have mostly been Nice people, but they have been very unhelpful for the most part.

I feel that we have been let down by the NHS (who I love!), we have been forced to seek private help from the only clinic that will help my desperate child, otherwise his mental health and potentially his Life would be at stake, I will not tolerate that.

The NHS GIDS pathway is far too long and drawn out. It creates awful amounts of stress for the whole family, but my son in particular should not have to be subjected to their “watchful waiting” to see literally “how much distress puberty causes” it’s child abuse. It’s disgusting and it’s a waste of time, loss of time in education and a waste of money (fuel, time off work to attend appointments).

I appreciate that what we went through to get to this point was needed, but the time scale is not, these assessments can and should be done far far quicker, especially for blockers where the side affects are minimal and reversible.

The waiting time for endocrinology looks to be several months, though I’ve asked several times, I have not had an actual answer for this, based on the fact that my son is in priority list 2 and there is a huge back log due to covid and the Keira bell case where referrals have Been stopped for around 1.5 years. My son cannot wait that long. Nor should he have to, in order to preserve his mental health, we have taken the decision to use GenderGP.

I haven’t met dr webberely, but I have seen some of her podcasts and am confident that she is a beacon of light, trying desperately to help trans people get the help they need to survive.

I would like to say thank you Helen, for all you are doing, it must take great courage and strength to be fighting so long and so hard. We stand with you and all that you do.

Much love my darling.



Damian

Young Voice

I was referred to Tavistock through CAMHS. I managed to skip past most of the waiting time with the psychiatrists help.

The first appointment I was informed that they don’t provide puberty blockers or hormone treatment, which is the main treatment I wanted as I had already lived a few years as my preferred gender. I was willing to talk about my gender and help them understand that this was the correct choice for me but only if I actually received treatment afterwards which they didn’t provide anymore. Afterwards, I was sent a questionnaire to fill out. They never got to see it as they suddenly terminated my care due to me ‘failing’ to show up to the next appointment, which I was never made aware of.

I later looked up reviews of Tavistock online to discover that other people were suddenly terminated for allegedly not showing up to their next appointments as well. There were also people who managed to continue their care, but because they didn’t completely conform to their preferred genders roles they were questioned and criticised. Even though I didn’t experience this, I believe I would’ve been questioned based off my interests as I had to state those in my questionnaire as well.

Recently, me and my GP have been working to getting me referred to an NHS gender clinic. The waiting times are well over 5 years so I’m currently entirely reliant on GenderGP for treatment.

I don’t remember any direct experience with Dr Helen Webberley.

“I believe GenderGP is a crucial service for trans people in the UK as we don’t have any immediate options.

After finally being able to partially transition physically, my dysphoria, depression and anxiety has decreased greatly and has made me live a fuller life and allowed me to realise that I have other issues I should work on. It’s very likely that I also have autism and adhd/add, which I can now get treatment for once I realised they’re not just symptoms of dysphoria, depression or anxiety.”

Anon

Young Voice

My teen is TGNB (masc) - we had a very traumatic, invalidating experience of GIDS. Firstly, the wait from being referred to our first appointment was almost 2 years, and then we had monthly appointments where they were subjected to invasive and intrusive questions about sexuality, masturbating etc. The implication was them trying to work out what ‘caused’ our teen to be TGNB.

We all experienced these sessions as traumatic (they were 15)- it felt like we were on trial and that my enby was having to prove their transness. It was completely invalidating.” Dr Webberley’s approach is trans affirmative, she works as part of a multi-professional team, who collaborate with trans people and their families. This is so crucial in a cisnormative world. Dr Webberley is knowledgeable, works to WPATH SoC 7 best practice guidelines. She gives a platform to trans people and trans affirmative healthcare providers from across the globe.

Dr Webberley is not only trans-inclusive, she is trans affirmative. The team at GenderGP (under Dr Webberley’s stewardship) is an exemplar of best practice in Trans health care.

Anon

Young Voice

Very inadequate and under educated as to the needs of a transgender person under 16. Why in this age are Doctors not fully informed about what they need to do for these patients? Just handing out anti-depressants is not enough. They need to do better.

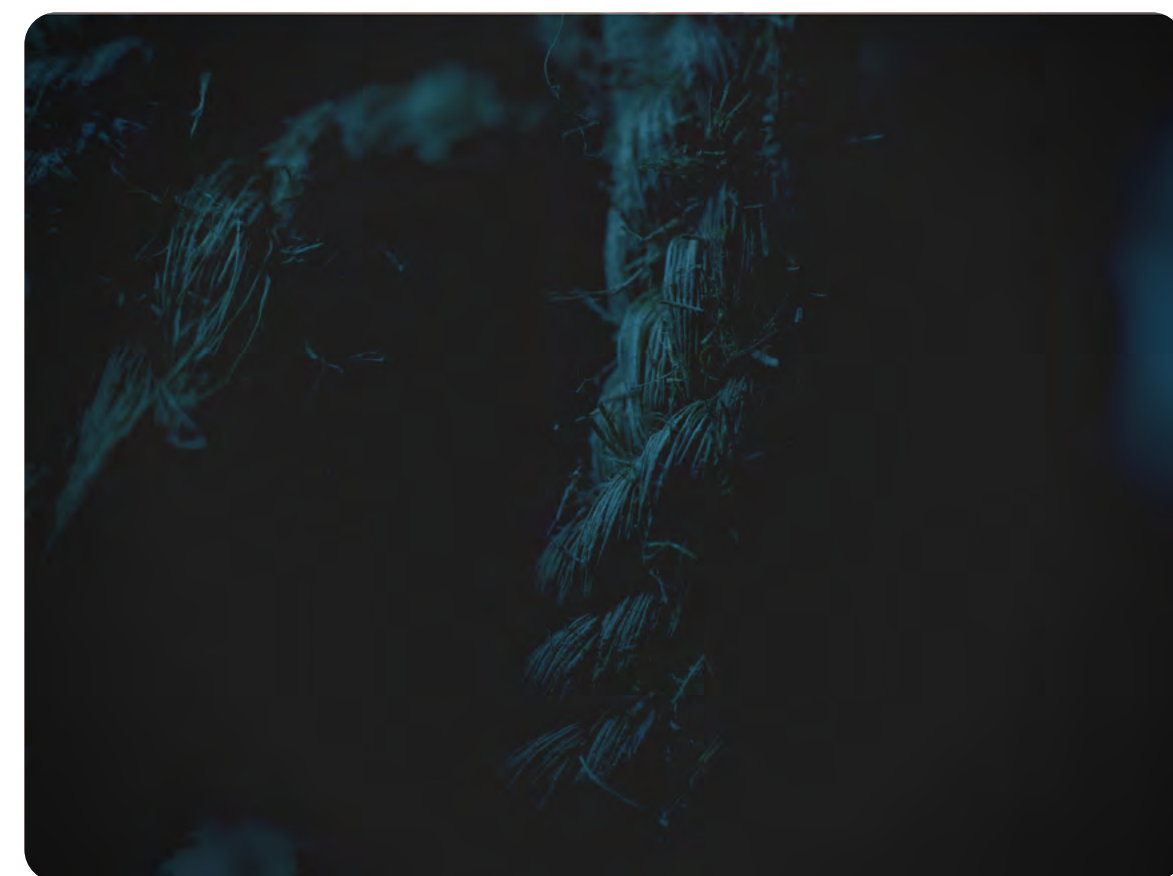
I have not met Dr Webberley personally but I do know that she has helped bring about the care and met the needs of my transgender daughter at a time when she was at her most vulnerable and could not get the help she needed at the exact time she needed it from the nhs. She was let down badly by the nhs so thank goodness GenderGP was there and did everything they possibly could at the time we needed it.

Anon

Young Voice

There is at least a three and a half year wait for nhs children’s services. During this time, we have faced self harm, suicidal thoughts and a society that is getting more scary for my child. When finally our appointment came through, we were told by the nhs that they offer NO counselling, or any medical support, only a few gender exploration sessions. They told us CAMHS offer counselling. CAMHS had already told us they wouldn’t, it is the job and expertise of the gender clinic. Gids told us in that appointment to stay private. After a three and half year desperate wait, we found the nhs appointment judgemental, disappointing and traumatic. Due to my child’s age, they now have to wait another 4 years for the adult services.

Dr Webberley and her team have been our only source of affirming support. Her approach is based on real life experience from the trans community and worldwide research as well as medical models of trans care from around the world. Whilst our nhs, press and government remains committed to NOT listening to what trans people need, trans people continue to be gaslighted, their rights continue to be eroded and you continually feed the hatred towards the trans community. Please don’t take our only source of positive support from us. Dr Webberley is offering this country what the NHS should have offered from it’s start, and it is still failing to offer now. Trans affirmative healthcare will cut mental health challenges, suicides, and many other distressing events that trans people experience. Dr Webberley and her team have been subjected to this continuous attack on their professional actions and judgments, because there is this deep hatred and fear around supporting trans lives in our society. This needs to stop.



Anon

I want it to be absolutely clear I am not in anyway ungrateful for the care provided by the NHS, but waiting times are insane.

I have friends who become adults while waiting to see the children's clinic.

I have friends who have had testosterone and top surgery private but don't expect to even speak to the NHS clinic for several more years. I ask that whatever happens to Dr Webberly that GGP be kept running, it offers affordable care for trans people in the UK, where the only alternatives are either to wait several years or pay several hundred pounds just to speak to a private Dr.

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Emilio

Incredible, I cannot fault the service at all. I was provided with my life saving medical treatment at 17 after the failings of the NHS service. Without this, I would not be the person I am today-if I stayed on the NHS waiting lists, I don't even think I would be here today. I think people from outside the system think it is easy and that 'children' are simply quickly put on hormones with no questions asked. This ignorance is killing people and is absolutely not the case. I had to be assessed by an outside psychologist and diagnosed before accessing care from GenderGP, which at the time was frustrating, but now I appreciate and is the reality I wish people knew. Accessibility is easy, at just the touch of a button or email. The only negative to my experience in the last 2 and a half years of being with the service came last October, when outside, transphobic media threatened my access to healthcare and vital medicine. However, despite how terrified I was of losing the medicine my life depended on purely due to false information and the increase in transphobic ideologies within healthcare, government, and the general public, GenderGP dealt with the situation calmly and carefully. I am proud to be with GenderGP, a system that has only done me right while still providing calm and kindness. It is a service I wish all young trans people had the pleasure of accessing, and

I can very much say their work has been life changing for me.

Evallyn

To be honest if it wasn't for GenderGP I would have died.

That's not an over exaggeration either. The lack of care and willingness to care and help in the NHS would have ended my life. Even to this day I still haven't been given an appointment for a GIC referral. Not once. The care that I have recieved at GenderGP has been the top of its industry. And should be the standard of transgender healthcare in the UK, they do not make me jump through hoops like a circus monkey to prove to them I am who I say I am.

I thankfully dont receive such backwards and thinly veiled transphobic treatment with GenderGP, I don't need to prove something. They believe and trust me to know this is right for me and I trust and believe they'll make the correct medical choices for me, without a doubt."



Anon

The NHS transgender healthcare is completely unacceptable for the transgender community. The waiting lists are dangerously long. We are all entitled to care on the NHS but it seems as though the NHS have made it nearly impossible for our community to access the healthcare that we NEED. Having Gender Dysphoria and having to wait for over 3 years to even be given the opportunity to start living a happy, unrestricted life is diabolical. Not only do we have to wait so long but I have personally, and I know of countless amounts of people who have spent over a year waiting to be seen by an NHS GIC to then find out that they were never referred in the first place because their referral wasn't actually submitted, so have had to start all over again! The NHS fails the trans community on so many occasions and do not take our healthcare seriously at all, which is unacceptable.

Dr Helen Webberley has saved my life completely. The Healthcare that Dr Webberley provides has enabled me to flourish. Dr Helen Webberley has dedicated her time to save the Transgender community and cares about every single one of her patients health and well-being to the best of her ability. She truly goes above and beyond for the entire community.

The care provided by GenderGP has been lifesaving for myself and many other people. All of the Doctors and staff at GenderGP are very kind, caring and professional. Because of GenderGP many Transgender people have access to essential healthcare without having to wait on the dangerously long NHS waiting lists. They have made it possible for me to live a happy and normal life.

I am beyond thankful for Dr Helen Webberley and GenderGP.



Jamie

GenderGP has changed my life in the best way i am so much more confident now even though i am only a month and a bit on hormones.



Deborah

I returned to the U.K. exactly four years ago after living and working overseas for many years. I began my transition MtF when overseas, was formally diagnosed with gender dysphoria and began hormone treatment. After returning to the U.K., I went to see my GP expecting that my hormone treatment would continued. Unfortunately, this did not occur and I was just referred to the local NHS gender dysphoria service. In effect, the reset button was pressed on my treatment. I have now waited FOUR years, and have still not been seen by an NHS doctor specialising in gender services. I was told that there is a long waiting list.

If I had not been able to access the GenderGP services started by Dr. Helen Webberley, I believe that I would have faced an extreme psychological, if not medical crisis.

Their services have literally been a life-saver to me, though I am still anxious that there is what appears to be an ongoing campaign to stymie the services GenderGP provide to someone like myself.



Anon

It is incredibly sad that as a Welsh 17 year old, in full time education, I have to spend my Education Maintenance Allowance on healthcare that I am supposed to have a right to in a reasonable time frame. As the NHS has failed miserably on this, I had to turn to GenderGP and spend my money on a private service that I'm supposed to be entitled to in a decent amount of time under the NHS.

Dr Helen Webberley and her team are providing a life saving service to so many people- and for that she and they should be praised, not punished.

Transgender people are here, and we are not going away. You can not erase us, and you can not pretend that we are any different to you- we are merely normal people, trying to get through our lives being happy just like you, and like so many people in the UK and indeed around the world, we happen to need a functional medical service.



Anon

Dr Helen Webberley has been fantastic with my transgender daughter,

she has been very professional, listened to my daughters feeling and concerns and always give informed information for my daughter to be able to make an informed decision about her care and treatment.

Anon

I have been treated with dignity and agency at every stage of the process.

Issues were easy to resolve, and the medical advice I was given by the available doctors was always done with a desire to err on the side of caution. Opportunities for counselling and ancillary care besides medication were made available to me both before and during my beginning hormone treatment.

Targeting people and organisations trying to make trans lives easier is par for the course in a country where most major political parties do not care about us, a renowned celebrity can be given an award by the BBC for writing a hate screed against us, and where an explicit hate group can succeed in blocking reform to legislation that affects us.

We could tolerate those things if the GLC system actually worked efficiently and with respect for our dignity and agency. It doesn't, that's why we're here.

You cannot divorce this hearing from the broader history of our care in this country. We have seen this happen before. You want us to believe you care about our well-being? Fix your system first. Recognise that organisations like GenderGP are far safer than the alternative of no care and DIY medication for too many people.

Don't throw out the crutch before casting the leg.



Ellen

GenderGP, like the NHS staff, have been extremely kind and understanding. Their process of working with my local GP has been nothing short of outstanding. Very professional, and they helped me achieve in 2 months what the NHS will have taken 4+ years to achieve.

The service has been first class, with information helping me directly along the way.

Fionn

Having been a patient of GenderGP for almost a year, I can say that they have exceed my expectations as well as the NHS route in their excellent provision of trans-related healthcare. Through GenderGP, I was able to start my long-awaited medical transition and finally access HRT. The process was less expensive than elsewhere as well as less stressful and easier to navigate; the sessions with medical professionals themselves, before I was able to start testosterone, lacked the judgement, doubt, and mistakes I had experienced via my NHS GP, and made me feel comfortable. I am finally seeing changes in my body I have wanted since I was a lot younger; this help and healthcare they have allowed me to access, without so many ridiculous barriers, has improved my wellbeing exponentially. GenderGP additionally help with navigating regular blood tests and check ups when needed, which I have had nothing put positive experiences with. Additionally, they have helped me with documents and transitioning beyond healthcare, which is something lacking in my NHS experience; my practice refused to even properly update my name.

I do not know what I would have done, or where I would be, without the help to transition through GenderGP.

Anon

Young Voice

I have not met Dr Helen Webberley, unfortunately I have not had this pleasure.

I believe Helen to be an incredibly brave soul standing up for voiceless families and young people just like ours. She is relentless in her fight and I would stand beside her given half the chance. I believe that Helen just wants to re-educate the nation as the policies and pathways used by the Tavistock are fundamentally flawed and not in line with the rest of Europe and the world. She is a doctor that is trying to do good but is instead being stopped by people that are uneducated but have power.

As a parent I want to affirm my child and help them to live their authentic truth- without the existence of GenderGP I would not be able to do this. Without GenderGP we would be stuck on the end of a three year waiting list with a child that's already almost finished puberty of a sex that does not align with them.

GenderGP has facilitated our family to be affirmative to our child and to help them on their journey that will last a lifetime but needed to begin promptly and NOT at the speed of the crappy NHS system!!!

Anon

Young Voice

The waiting list is too long for transgender people to be seen. Also NHS staff would benefit from training around transgender and equality, this is coming from a member of the NHS who challenges wording and transphobic comments by staff (hence why I want this to be anonymous due to my career)

My knowledge and experience with GGP has been 100% positive and they have always been professional and care given is individualised and personal to each person (how care should be delivered)

Keep up the fantastic work in supporting the transgender community. Without you and you team who knows where half these people would be

Anon

Young Voice

I was under the tavistock GIDS from ages 15-18. I hated it, I always dreaded going, I felt they didn't explain certain things properly. Such as to start blockers (at the time) I needed both parents consent while I was under the age of 16, no one properly explained this to me until I started blocker treatment, so from my view I was being told 'no' for seemingly no reason. Another thing I struggled with while there was that my clinicians kept changing, by the time I left I had seen 5 different people. I struggled a bit with the waiting time but for me to start at the children's clinic it was only a 13 month wait which is nothing compared to what it is now.

I'm now under the adult GIC in London which I'm finding much better, they clarify things much better and I'm not terrified of saying the wrong thing and getting discharged which was a serious concern I had while with the children's clinic and that has caused me to be fairly reserved when it comes to doctors. The waiting list with adults was 12-14 months (I believe) but it only felt like 4 months or so because that included the time I waited to turn 18 (I was referred when I was 17)

Overall, children's services felt awful and I hated going and I didn't feel very well supported, adults is considerably better and I feel much better supported there.

I contacted GenderGP for a referral for top surgery, I'm 19 and I've been on testosterone for almost a year and a half and I feel ready for surgery. I spoke to the adult clinic with the NHS about top surgery, and I did mention I had a preference to go privately and while they couldn't provide a referral they were supportive and understanding of my decision. After speaking to some friends who are going NHS for their surgery and finding out that for the surgeon I wanted to go with the wait list was 2 years I looked into private clinics. GGP (GenderGP) was not my first choice, I did look into the Harley street gender clinic but with their prices being over double what GGP is and being low-income I contacted GGP. I was able to book an appointment a few days after contacting GGP, I had an assessment that lasted an hour, we spoke about both my medical and social transition as well as my physical and mental health. I felt very relaxed and listened to throughout. The same evening I received my referral letter that I then forwarded to my surgeon.

Thanks to GGP I have a surgery date for September.

Anon

Young Voice

I am fortunate enough to be on the Welsh GIC list, which has a shorter waiting time than the other GICS, but the waiting times still exceed the maximum amount of time you're supposed to wait to see a professional- a time limit set by the NHS themselves. The current system is set up to fail transgender people young and old alike, but particularly young people, with politicians deciding that the gillick competency doesn't apply to transgender youth, purely based on the fact of being transgender.

The bottom line is that the NHS' current way of dealing with transgender medical care drives people to suicide- but it seems that because it doesn't directly impact the GICS or government they don't care, because of the incorrect prejudice and fear-mongering around transgender people, and they'd prefer it if we were to just disappear.

GenderGP has treated me with dignity to provide me a diagnosis and medication to transition, which has made me a thousand times more comfortable in my own skin. They, unlike the NHS, manage their wait times and still provide a brilliant service for their patients. Why should GenderGP and their patients be punished for Helen Webberley's service, a service that has saved, and will continue to save, so many people?

Anon

Young Voice

On the 26th of July I turn 18 years old, its also my 2 years on testosterone. I didn't believe I would make it to 16 let alone 18. I am living because of GenderGP, I would not be alive right now if it wasn't for GenderGP. I started testosterone when I was 16 with GenderGP. I had been waiting since I was 12 to get support and start medically transitioning, I got nothing from the NHS. Without the support of GenderGP I would not be here right now to celebrate my 18th.

All I can say is thank you to Dr Helen Webberly and GenderGP. This service has saved hundreds of lives and continues to do so. I have absolutely thrived from being able to access my life saving hormones. I am finally living. Thank you.

Anon

Young Voice

I have not met Dr Webberley but I know that it is thanks to her that GenderGP exists. I thank her wholeheartedly for providing a safe and necessary service for those of us caught in the painful limbo of NHS waiting lists and out-of-date legislation regarding transgender healthcare. GenderGP needs to be recognised as a valid private provider of transgender healthcare in this country to help with the backlog of patients on the NHS waiting lists and give local GPs the confidence to provide shared care with their endocrinologists.

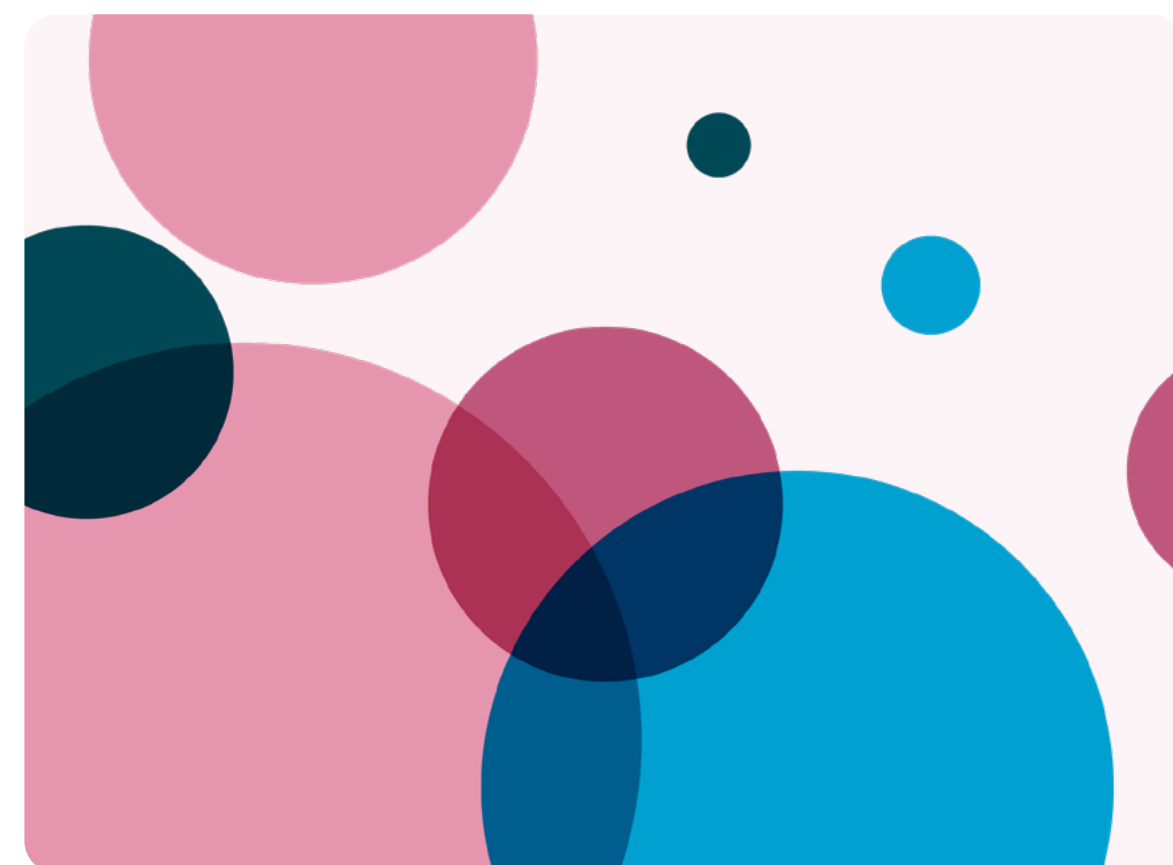
We have been hit by the negative media around transgender healthcare, court cases and trans people in general, plus its impact on pharmacies dispensing prescribed medication.

The Good Law Project have thankfully brought a successful case to show that parents like myself are in a position to know our children and what's best for their care and to consent to treatment, however, this has proven to be slow to be understood by the general public but also the GPhC and those giving advice to local pharmacists.

I can't help but think this is a cruelty that will require public apologies in the future to those transgender people being made to suffer right now.

Transgender people exist, transgender youth exist, transgender healthcare exists and works.

Trans people don't need a period of time to ""try being cisgender"" before treatment as they have been exposed to being cisgender and trying to fit in since being born. They recognise what doesn't fit at an earlier age nowadays because the information and validation is available. Anyone who knows and loves a transgender person knows this to be true, it's time for the rest of the world to catch up."



Lucy

GenderGP has been there for countless trans people across the UK and has no doubt saved many lives by providing trans health care that the NHS hasn't been able to provide for these individuals including me. I've been with GenderGP for almost 2 years now and every interaction with them has been positive.

I can positively say that GenderGP has drastically improved my life as someone who is transgender and has definitely saved my life by providing me with essential treatment.

Greyson

I appreciate GenderGP so much as they helped me get the healthcare i needed when the nhs didn't, the end of last year i was so frustrated that i would hypothetically not be on testosterone by my 18th birthday of september 2021, so my mum saw some stuff ab GenderGP and offered me to look into it, my grandpa also supported this as he wantwd to help out money wise. i am so thankful for GenderGP, in my information gathering session i spoke to a lovely women called marianne she was the sweetest and she made sure that i knew what i was talking about within my gender identity and she clearly asked me a lot about my dysphoria. GenderGP got me the healthcare that i needed, which was to start testosterone before my 18th as i felt it wouldve been a little silly to go through puberty when im 18. i am now just over 2 months on testosterone and GenderGP have been supportive throughout and make it easy to contact them about any questions and such, they also follow up with me with blood tests to make sure my blood is okay so i am thankful they do that as well.

Anon

My experience of GenderGP have been brief but they have stood out above others, they have made some of the most unpleasant or worrying moment of my life be sorted and aided with an ease and comfort I didn't expect. They were professional but also displayed a level of personal experience that helped build bridges and added a much more specific and relatable air to appointments and processes with them. You feel wholeheartedly that the person you're talking to understands your experiences and genuinely wants to help. Thanks to GenderGP I am closer than I've ever been to top surgery, and the process was easy, straightforward and quick too. I can't thank GenderGP enough for the incredible work they do.

Anon

My experience with NHS healthcare for trans people has been that it is completely inadequate at best, and harmful and offensive at worst. I was misgendered by a psychiatrist assessing me for gender dysphoria. Waiting lists are so long that there is realistically no care available. As far as I'm concerned, there is no NHS healthcare provision for transgender people.

"GenderGP has changed my life. NHS transgender healthcare is essentially completely inaccessible, and other private providers have treated me with far less dignity and respect. The hoops that I was asked to jump through by NHS and other private providers could have led to me coming to physical and mental harm. I felt as though if I was expected to present as an archaic caricature of my identified gender if I was to receive any treatment, with one professional suggesting I might feel better if I wore ""pink bunny slippers.""

GenderGP is the only trans medical provider who has in any way treated me like an adult human being capable of making my own decisions, and the provision of care has changed my life.

Since starting hormone therapy with GenderGP, I feel like an entirely different person. Prior, I lived in a state of permanent mental fog and emotional distress. I felt as though I was just existing. I now feel as though I am living. The focus and mental/emotional stability I now have as a direct result of Dr. Webberley's organisation has allowed me to return to education and pursue a degree - something I could not possibly have managed prior to treatment. It has made my life worth living.

The organisation saves lives.

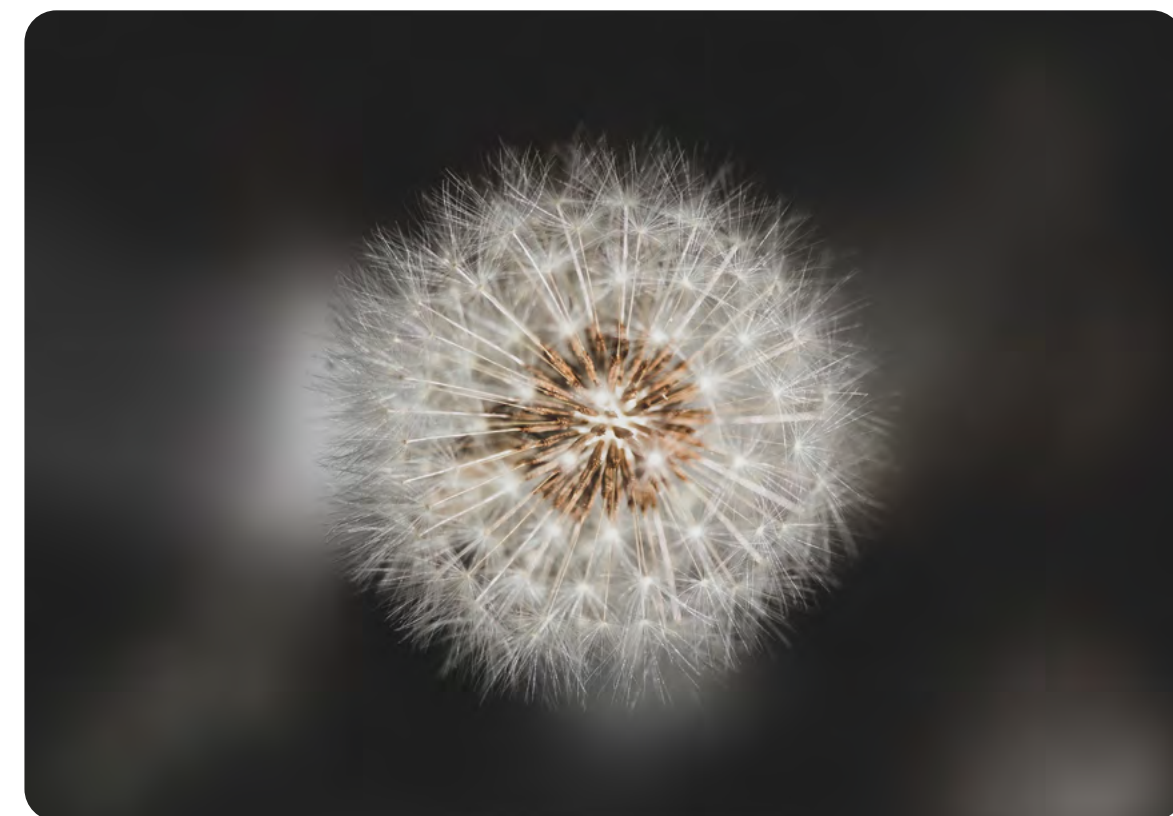
Genevieve

The NHS gender health care is a disgrace. My GP refuses to give me medication and his training concerning Transgender people was non-existent. He even thought I had some mental illness and wished to refer me to the mental health team. I had to point out that I was not mentally ill and trans people were no longer considered to be. I have a 36-month wait at the least before my first appointment with the GIC.

Dr Helen Webberley is amazing, all she wished to do is help transgender adults and children, she treats them with respect and dignity. She is far more knowledgeable than most GP's

Julius

Generally most trans people nowadays figure out they're trans in their teens or late teens, and I was one of them. In 2016, I was referred to GIDS through CAMHS. I was with CAMHS since I was about 15 years old due to my mental health problems that were caused by feeling isolated at school. I did not receive a letter for an appointment until 2018, in which I was discharged from CAMHS as I would have turned 18 that year. In April 2018 I travelled to London with my dad to meet with an adolescent psychotherapist and an assistant psychologist, who were both white cisgender women, at the Tavistock clinic. The appointment was a one off session before my 18th birthday, and as GIDS does not offer adult services I was told that my only option was to be put on another waiting list for adult services. I was also convinced to do more "research". My father voiced his reasonable concerns for my health during the appointment, but instead of sharing relevant information that would assuage those concerns (i.e. blood tests, monitoring) or giving information about the risks and benefits. I left the clinic with no reassurance that I would get treatment soon, and no clue what to do. I would then also receive a letter weeks later, 2 pieces of paper that reiterate what I said during the interview and a couple of paltry links to transgender forums on the internet. My family is Filipino and I live in a small town in Surrey--almost nobody in town looks like me or is trans like me, and there was no gender clinic to be found in these parts. I visited my GP plenty of times between 2018 and 2020 to make sure those referrals went through, and they did--they just never got back to me. After some time in 2020, I took matters into my own hands and began to self-educate on my hormones and my health, and self medicated until I had enough money to sign up for GenderGP's services. I've known I was trans since I was 14. To this day, I still have had no contact from adult NHS services about my transition. I'm starting to doubt it even exists.



Anon

I was referred to the Nottingham GIC in November 2018 and as yet still have not had an invitation for a first appointment. As of May 2021 appointments are being offered to those referred in March 2018. On that scale I still have at least another 6 months to wait and most likely longer, making my wait time for first appointment in excess of 3 years. A 2nd appointment to actually get hormone treatment or surgery is then a further 6 months after the first appointment. It's insane and it's only getting worse.

In my experience GenderGP have been life saving. Without them I would still be waiting for access to hormone treatment, if I was even still here. They provide a level of service the NHS should aspire to.

Dr Helen Webberley has in all probability saved countless lives by providing the support and access to hormone treatment that the NHS fail to provide.

Expecting someone with gender dysphoria to wait 3+ years for a first appointment is inhumane and is forcing people to self medicate or sadly, end their lives. The record of the NHS is far worse for general care and misdiagnosing than the 3 accounts of failing to provide good healthcare that Dr Webberley is accused of.

Anon

GenderGP have been incredibly supportive through my treatment and have been quick to respond to any queries I might get have. Before I started treatment I was guided through all the effects it may have on me and had sessions to talk to counsellors with in the team to talk through my thoughts on everything. The team have always been helpful and tried to work with my local GP to deliver my treatment but with no luck.

I took treatment from GenderGP because of the NHS waiting lists, both me and my parents agreed that it would be the best course of action for me and it has been the best decision I've ever made, I'm a happier more confident person. Before I started treatment I was struggling with self harm and really didn't see a future for myself, now I am doing well at university and know what I want to do in life. It's not somewhere I ever saw myself and I do credit this to starting treatment with GenderGP and the wholehearted support they have given me over the last 4/5 years.

Anon

GenderGP has been there to support me this whole time for just a small fee which I am happy to pay because it's helping knowing that there is someone I can talk to if I need, the NHS is so painfully slow, I'm not surprised that they have such a high count of suicidal people when they don't talk to them for up to 3 years

Anon

The healthcare and funding is awful. There is NO support and at my local doctors they have no clue on anything related to trans people, I have to basically beg them to care for me, they should have more training on supporting us. My own GP told me being trans is a phase. Rude if you ask me. I've been referred but have yet even had a first appointment.

I have had hormones now for over a year with GenderGP, they have always checked my bloods before prescribing, changing and monitoring my health to ensure this is all correct. I even advised them my gp is checking my bloods but they still want to make sure and ask me for copies of this. They provided me with enough information to ensure I could get my passport and drivers license changed to male, when I asked my gp for a letter he had no idea what he should do. Good job I had GenderGP to turn to. They ensured when I wanted to change to injections they gave me all the relevant training and information and ensured I had someone suitable and knowledgeable to administer this for me.

I have recently had my top surgery and all this would not have been possible without GenderGP.



Holly

GenderGP as a whole including the support from Dr Helen Webberley has been incredible, no one else in the medical field has made me feel more welcomed and supported and I couldn't be more thankful.



Anon

my son has been a member of GenderGP for many years - since a young teenager and ongoing now into adulthood - all i can say is thank you so much as without you i know that my son's mental health would have seriously deteriorated. GenderGP has been there to counsel, support, prescribe and guide us through a very difficult journey -

Anon

I was put on the NHS waiting list for their children's gender clinic based in Leeds when I was 16, due to their own fault I was never transferred over to the adult clinic at 18 and so lost the two years of waiting time I had already done. At 18 I became frustrated and scared and thought my life had lost purpose, the waiting list times for NHS clinics are simply too long. Transgender people are some of the most vulnerable in the country and have a life expectancy severely shorter than average, the treatment of myself and others by the NHS in terms of treatment and waiting times is simply unacceptable.

After being discarded by the NHS I came to GenderGP wary and hopeful. Dr Helen Webberley and the team at GenderGP helped me when I thought no one else would. She acted as a saviour in a time when I seriously contemplated taking my own life and for that I will forever be grateful.

GenderGP, for me, has been amazing.

They have helped my grow and flourish into the woman I am today, both through the kind support of the staff and the access to medication which otherwise could have taken years on the NHS. Gender

GP truly saved my life and pulled me from my darkest times.

I will forever be grateful and hope to continue to grow with them. They offer what the NHS cannot, that is open and judgement free counselling, a family time atmosphere and crucial life saving medication for transgender people like me throughout the country.

Ray

As there was no hope of getting any help via the NHS I chose GenderGP to assist me.

They have been nothing short of fantastic. They are caring, knowledgeable, efficient and they really care. Their advice and support has been second to none. Their care (which is more in-depth than that given by the NHS) is superb. Their experience, knowledge and duty of care and attention to detail is excellent. They are highly recommended.

Natalie

My experience with GenderGP has been nothing but positive for my trans-related healthcare. As a transgender woman they have provided me with the opportunity to have access to positively life altering hormone therapy that has allowed me to start the journey of my medical transition and not have to wait a number of years on the NHS' disastrously long waiting lists.

Anon

Although my GP has been supportive in the social aspects of my transition by updating my notes in their system, recommending talking therapies, and prescribing antidepressants. I have had to chase them multiple times to even complete a referral to the GIC and walk them through all of the steps required (from my own research as a trans person and knowledge as a medical student) as they had no experience doing so. I am still yet to hear back from the GIC to even confirm that a referral was received after several further months.

A timely and informed-consent based approach to trans healthcare has been life-saving for me and i am sure many others. I already waited until I was financially independent of my family to come out for my own safety and if I had continued to wait the times the NHS services are currently operating under I am not sure I would be alive by the time I was seen by the GIC. However under the GenderGP service I have been able to begin hormone treatment which have already done wonders for my mental and emotional health.

I have felt supported, respected, and heard by the service for the entire process so far and will forever be grateful.

Anon

If GenderGP had not existed, I would have killed myself. Simple as that.

GGP gave me access to healthcare I NEEDED to continue living my day to day life.

The lack of provision by the NHS led me to almost kill myself and GGP prevented that and actually helped me. Out of my NHS GP, or any of the "help" i have received from the NHS in relation to trans medical issues and GenderGP, GenderGP is the only one who has done any good for me.

Anon

GenderGP are providing what i personally consider to, in my situation and many others, life saving care at a very good timescale, whereas it is likely i will in my mid 20s before i get anything from the NHS.

I believe i would have not survived this wait if not for GenderGP's care plan. GenderGP is an excellent service providing a much needed service to UK trans people.

Louise

I made representation to the welsh health board in support of GenderGP and asked what risk assessments had been done for the patients that would be in serious trouble should the service cease. The response was that the wellbeing of these patients was not the concern of the Welsh Health Board. For whatever reason this seemed to be a malicious charge designed to close the service with zero regard for patients.

GenderGP saved my life. That is not an understatement. Without them i would not be here today.



Dannielle

Magnificent.

Wholly human-centred and altruistic trying to reach out to hold the hands of people who suddenly find themselves facing a stark choice such as transition, or die; explore one's true nature or suffer enormously with mental health issues that miraculously disappear when gender is treated in the right way - sensitively, professionally and accountably and as expeditiously as is safe to do. Helen has been monumental support.



Anon

If it wasn't for Dr Webberley I'm not sure how I would have coped.

The waiting times and NHS process does not enable people like myself to receive the proper care and puts the trans community at great risk of mental health issues. The service provided by Dr Webberley has been vital in maintaining my mental well being and has also helped greatly in prescribing the medication I required to help me through my various stages without having to wait several years for an appointment.

If anything, Dr Webberley should be applauded for her work with the trans community in providing a much needed service

and the NHS should not be seeking a scapegoat for their lack of quality service to the trans community.

I cannot speak highly enough of the service as at my lowest ebb and waiting for many, many months for an appointment and subsequent appointments GenderGP was there to provide all that I needed during a hugely stressful time and I cannot thank them enough and should anything happen to this service it will be to the detriment of thousands of patients who have come to rely on them as the NHS does not provide the correct services for trans patients.

Anon

The NHS is failing trans people and allowing young trans people to go through unwanted irreversible physical changes to their body as a result of failing to deliver care and treatment in a timely manner. Who should people turn to when the NHS is failing them?

Someone has to step up and pick up the pieces for these people. It is a tragedy that Helen Webberley is having to pay such a high price for helping trans people achieve their best possible outcome.

Amanda

My experience with GenderGP has been nothing but positive for my trans-related healthcare. As a transgender woman they have provided me with the opportunity to have access to positively life altering hormone therapy that has allowed me to start the journey of my medical transition and not have to wait a number of years on the NHS' disastrously long waiting lists.



Em

I have never had an NHS doctor who understood my experiences as a trans man. I've been misgendered, refused care, and asked to explain my identity over and over again.

Without GenderGP, I would have had to wait close to a decade to start hormone treatment. Thanks to the service, I was able to be assessed by a specialist, take blood tests, and start on hormones in only a couple of months, putting an end to nearly five years of waiting since coming out as trans. I know I am safe and well-monitored and my medication is equally safe, and to say otherwise would be completely irresponsible.

Anastasia

I am immensely grateful for the impact GenderGP has had on my life. Thanks to their care, I am immeasurably happier, and there have also been positive knock-on effects to my physical health beyond the obvious. I used to drink a bit too much and now I don't, for instance, which in turn also has more positive knock-on effects for my physical and mental health. But for me, the biggest thing is that I look in the mirror and see a person who has hope for the future and a promising life ahead. It's not hyperbole to say that GenderGP hasn't merely changed my life—they've given me life.

Cassiel

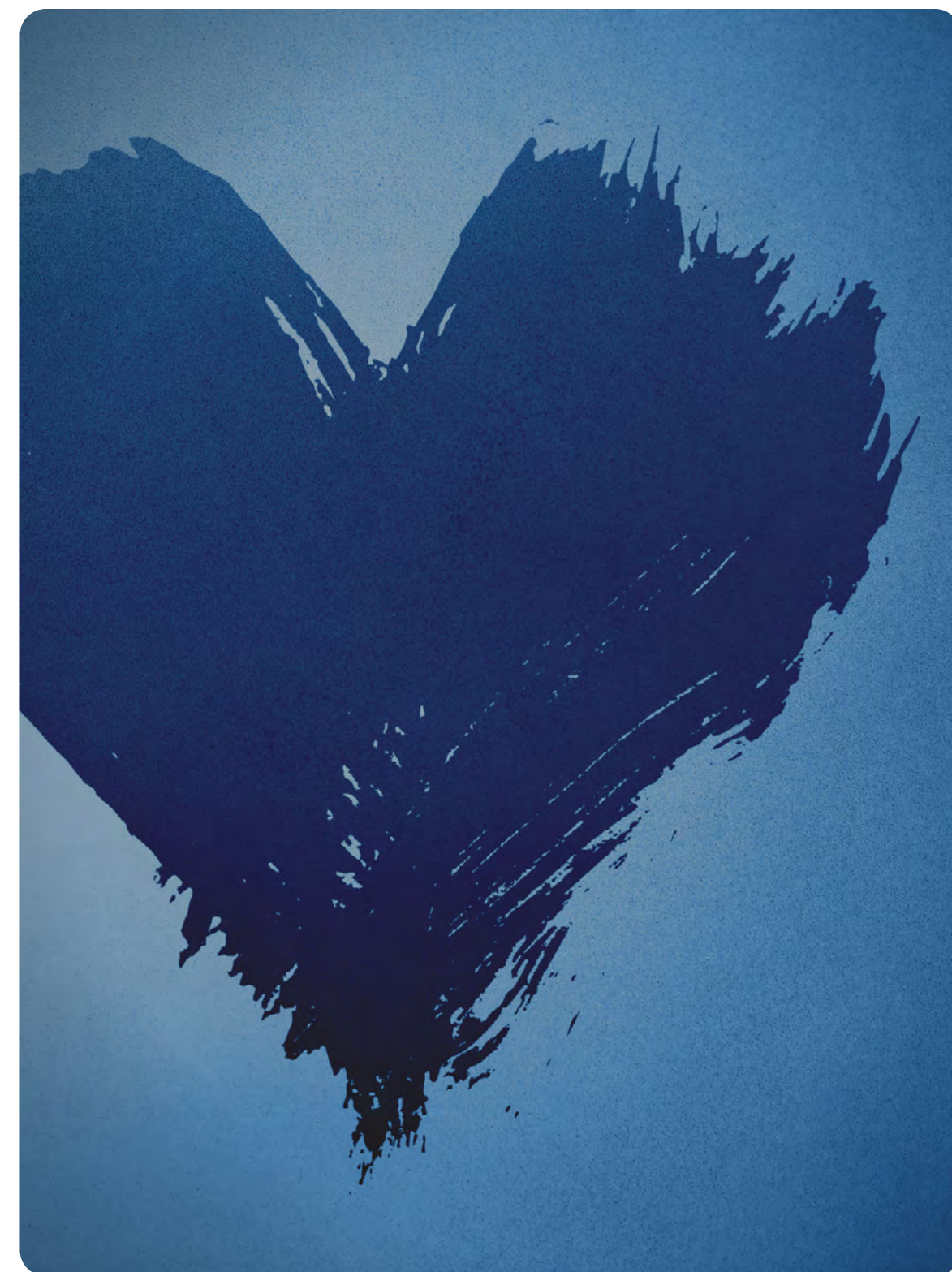
I have so much respect for Dr Helen Webberley, as she's fighting to provide trans people worldwide with healthcare that follows the WPATH guidelines,

using an informed consent model rather than the psychiatric model which is very harmful and the process is invasive. She's making a huge difference to trans people everywhere and it would be a devastating blow to thousands of us to lose this service. I cannot stress enough how necessary a worldwide informed consent model for HRT/gender-related care is.

Jovnna

The service provided by this medical team is beyond anything in terms of helpful and caring.

The NHS should acknowledge that Dr Webberley is reducing strain upon their services.



Anon

The NHS care for trans people is shocking. The waitlist just keeps increasing with no end in sight and it is genuinely harmful to trans people. I have been waiting for a 2nd appointment for 2 years and still have not been contacted.

GenderGP are quick, kind, understanding and supportive.

They helped me start on testosterone and I know that if I had waited any longer, I'm not sure if I would have been alive to write this statement.

GenderGP have saved my life.

Anon

I am still alive as a consequence of GenderGP existing. I am a woman in her thirties, I had put off transitioning much longer than I should have, when I finally couldn't delay any longer I realised that I would be facing a multi year wait in order to access any kind of HRT in Ireland.

This was a horrifying thought.

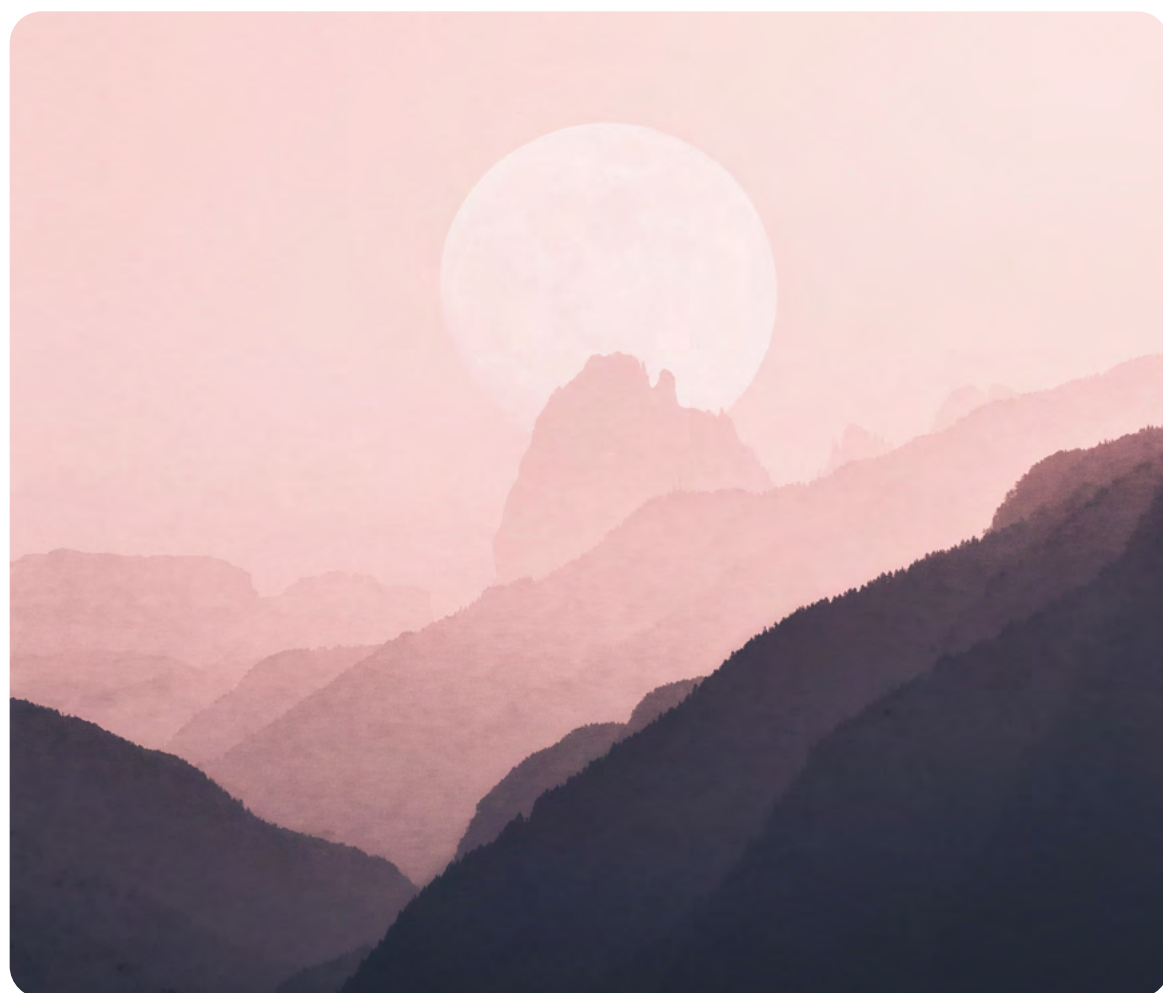
After reaching out to GenderGP I was treated kindly

and considerately, I was able to provide medical info and blood tests and so on and start off within a few weeks.

That was over three years ago, I am very much the person I am owing to the support I received.

Anon

There is no NHS service. My son was referred to GIDS in September 2018, some 34 months ago. In that time all he has received is a letter confirming that his referral has been accepted by GIDS and then a letter asking if they could remove him from their waiting list. We have no idea when his first appointment may be.



Quinn

Prior to coming in contact with GenderGP, I'd been on hormones for approximately 3-4 years in Australia under a different endocrinologists care. With signed letters from my Australian Endocrinologist and years worth of other email evidence, the NHS sent me a letter stating I'd have to wait an extended period of time before I was able to have my hormones prescribed in England.

This led me to become quite tired, fatigued, at one point, very sick and nauseous. My menstrual cycle restarted causing immense sickness and dysphoria, as well as the dysphoria induced by my body fat redistributing to a now Estrogen-dominated body. I came into contact with GenderGP and their medical team who accepted the same clear evidence of my history on hormones and prescribed the dose I'd been stable on.

My experience with the NHS Gender Identity Clinic was atrocious, and my experience with GenderGP, albeit a semi-long process to get through the appraisal pathway, was overall fantastic. With the trust I knew my body well, I requested slight adjustments to my medication recently and it was run by a doctor and granted within a day or two.

Clare

I have been a patient of GenderGP since early 2020. I went through professional assessment processes before doing blood tests and being accessed then having hormone treatments prescribed by their overseas based GPs. Throughout my treatment the staff at GenderGP have been caring and professional.

They hold my hand through the processes.

They provide easy to access support if I need it. They provide a range of holistic services and information in relation to my transition to give me a one stop shop. Most importantly they provide SAFE access to hormone treatments following the guidance of the WPATH standards. Information and support by contrast from the NHS is fragmented and difficult to find. During my treatment it has been clear that those people who do not wish GenderGP to exist, have targeted those that chose to work with them, for example the general pharmaceutical council causing difficulties for Pharmacies through which I obtain my hormone treatments via private prescriptions issued by GenderGP.

Karen

I have been using GenderGP for nearly 3 years. The service I have got is excellent. They were very careful and took appropriate safeguarding measures before I was allowed hrt. It is now nearly 3 years since I transitioned to Karen full time and it is going very well. I have a shared care arrangement with my GP who does my bloods and is very understanding. Without GenderGP I do not know where I'd be - probably self-medicating without bloods being taken



Donna

My experience of GenderGP is that they are a committed and responsible healthcare provider, willing to work with and alongside other professionals such as my GP.

They made sure I had a valid diagnosis of Gender Dysphoria from a recognised professional before agreeing to start my treatment.

And they ensure my ongoing health - both mental and physical - by prescribing appropriate HRT treatment according to globally-recognised WPATH standards, ensuring that I undergo regular six-monthly checkups on my state of mind and general health, and that I have regular blood tests to ensure my treatment is both suitable and safe.

I would recommend them without a moment's hesitation to anyone needing trans healthcare.

Sarah

As a ftm transgender person

I have found so much compassion, professionalism and help from Dr Webberley.

She has provided me with more information and support than any other medical professional that I have had contact with. She is the first medical professional that I didn't have to educate on trans issues/ medical requirements.

Damian

At the beginning of my care with GenderGP, I was given a lot of questions about my gender identity, how that affected my past and how I hope it would influence my future. They were very thorough and kept up with me to make sure I have considered everything and still felt the same as I always have about my gender and future treatment.

I started testosterone with GenderGP as a late 15 year old. They constantly monitored my blood tests and pressure reading results to make sure I wasn't going to experience any issues. They started me off with a low dose of gel, then I switched to injections for lower cost and convenience. 2 plus years later and I'm happy with the results and currently struggling to try and get surgery so I can complete my transition to finally fully live comfortably.

Roux

GenderGP has been incredibly facilitating to me. As an openly nonbinary (Agender specifically) person, I often hesitate to rely on healthcare providers. Dr Webberley has created a wonderful and safe environment for transgender folk, they have encouraged the education of nonbinary identities nationally, especially within their own company, and also encouraged the use of normalizing sharing pronouns, and neopronouns. I feel absolutely no ill intent from them, and I know they harbour none. All of their employees are incredibly facilitating.

Luna

Tavistock has just been a long waitlist, my GP has been a legend and worked brilliantly with GenderGP,

I would say together they both saved my life

Emma

My experience with GenderGP has been life saving and saved me from mental anguish, the team have been so so understanding of trans issues and how to people the trans community,

I've been receding care from GenderGP for sometime now, and have never felt happier,

they are also helping people at times where they have no where else to go, or looking at 5 years of waiting on a NHS list just for one appointment, which in itself is absolutely disgusting. Personally though, without GenderGP I might not even be here now to write this, or al the very least mentally beyond repair.

Miles

It's amazing, simple and affordable, I think I would be dead if not for GenderGP, trans people need providers that won't gatekeep or make them wait years for essential medical care.



Anon

NHS healthcare provision for transgender folks is currently a horrific joke. The kind of joke that people kill themselves over, because they simply cannot get the specialised, affordable care they need.

Yes, I've been referred to the Gender Identity Clinic. My GP agreed with my reasons for doing so. My needs are not in question. The waiting list is something like 5 years or more at this time. I cannot wait that long.

There are people out there who literally cannot survive a wait like that.

The almost complete absence of available care from the NHS is killing people. Suicide, depression, self harm, mental issues, are all a result of this absence.

They are professional, helpful, and thorough. The support and sheer kindness from them has been a real boost. The Information Gathering Sessions are carried out by people who have first hand experience of dealing with trans folk.

Anyone levelling a claim of unprofessionalism against them clearly hasn't worked with them.

Emily

I approached GenderGP in November of 2019, following my first contacts with my GP, and upon commencement of appointments with the NHS Psychosexual counsellor - I did this for a number of reasons. Having undertaken research, I felt that the affirmative, informed consent model of GenderGP would work best for me. I have been aware of my gender incongruence for over 35 years, and found the intrusive, rude and 'gatekeeper' approach of the NHS service dehumanising. In contrast, my sessions with the GenderGP team were non-judgemental, albeit in depth and careful in centring me as the patient. I was provided with an abundance of information and a lengthy consent form detailing the effects of HRT, and the irreversibility of some of them. This information was presented factually and consistently. In addition, the support service of the counselling team was made available, and the need to have follow up sessions made clear. GenderGP arranged for me to be assessed and for a prescription to be raised, I am fortunate in the extent that my GP has supported with prescribing and blood monitoring, in conjunction with GenderGP - which is obviously a benefit from a cost perspective, but also ensures an element of connection with my general healthcare requirements. I have availed myself of monthly counselling sessions through GenderGP which have been essential in maintaining a level of good mental health in a broader environment which is simply getting worse for trans people. NHS Mental health services are close to non-existent in my area, and without the support of GenderGP (including on a few occasions where urgent appointments have been made available) it is entirely likely that I would have been at crisis point again. GenderGP have had a few issues with communications during this period, as new software solutions have been introduced, but these have been resolved and responses to queries and requests are swift and considered. I used GenderGP to provide letters for my Passport application, as getting time with my NHS GP proved impossible.

Jessica

Without GenderGP and services like GenderGP allowing me safer access to HRT than just doing it myself I would likely be dead by now. It is that simple. Access to healthcare and medical transition (if desired by the patient) saves lives.

GenderGP have made sure that I monitor my levels, that my health is safeguarded by a medical team and that my treatment is not based on my guesswork and ""the things I found on the internet"" - as it had been prior to their care.

Anon

Many transgender people currently hold little faith in the NHS and a medical system that makes them wait unnecessarily long times and clear inordinately high hurdles to access treatment. The UK medical establishment treats us as outcasts and offers us little hope. Dr Webberley and GenderGP have done and do the opposite -

they treat us with respect and dignity, they accept us as individuals worthy of equal treatment, and most importantly they offer us hope.



Robbin

To everyone at GenderGP, you have my full support and I'm happy to continue to give testimonials and I'm willing to fight for you, just like you have done for me and all the trans community.

After all nobody wakes up and chooses to be trans, and I honestly feel GenderGP is one of the few services who truly understand that!

Sarah

Without GenderGP my daughters dysphoria would worsen and who knows what the outcome would be. Suicide and mental health issues are prevalent in the trans community. Why? When there is help available?

Cole

When I was 17 I came out as head boy in my school. I was then referred to the children's GIC. A year later I turn 18 and was contacted and told they could no longer help me as I was too old for their service. They then said they would refer me to the adult GIC. This would mean id still be waiting for my first appointment as this was 4 years ago. To my knowledge the GIC are currently still dealing with referrals made in 2017-18.

GenderGP has changed my life massively. If I had waited any longer to start my transition my mental heath would have been much worse. GenderGP go through extensive checks to make sure this is the right decision for their patients. Their service provide exceptional customer service and they respond very fast. I have never had a problem with GenderGP. I have a blood test as often as they suggest in order to change my dosage or medication and if I ever have a query I can contact them online to solve it.

Anon

My son (born female, decided at 13 that he was to be recognised as male) was offered mental health support due to anxiety. CAMHS didn't help much, and when it turned out the anxiety was gender dysphoria, they effectively wiped their hands of us as this is not something they can help with. We were left to find out everything ourselves.

Anon

I was gatekept at 18 by the NHS with ridiculous and frankly dangerous social hoops I was expected to jump through without medical assistance. I spent the next 20 years battling with depression, eating disorders, self harm and suicide ideation and attempts. I must have cost the NHS x3 what they'd have spent on gender affirming health care. Normally I find malicious compliance hilarious but not when my mental health is the punchline.

I am back on the NHS waiting list now at the age of 41, I'll be 44 when I actually speak to someone. I won't be alive in 3 years without transitioning. Doing so without hormone treatment is not an option for me.

Our current system is literally stuck in the 70s, It's disgusting. Absolutely abhorrent and I am ashamed my NHS treats us trans folk this way.

If it weren't for GenderGP providing me with the medication I need. I would be dead. It is that simple.

Thank you GenderGP for being there for me when I was at my wits end and giving me a way out of the hell id been living.

I am now happily transitioning, living full time as myself and for the first time ever, LOVING LIFE.



Anon

My experience so far (for my son) has been wonderful, communication is easy and prompt, polite and also friendly, all these are new experiences for me!

GenderGP have helped solve issues with my gp, they have answered my questions quickly and thouroughly, they have sent lots of information for me and my son to read and discuss.

We found their assessment process thought provoking, thorough and efficient. We identified areas that GIDS hadn't even touched on in 5 years of Seeing them! This I found shocking, but reassuring that GenderGP clearly know what they're doing.

We spoke with marianne for his assessment and she was lovely, helpful and answered questions concisely. She asked relevant questions and offered suggestions, rather than expecting him to know what she meant, my son really enjoyed talking to her, which, considering how uncomfortable it is at Tavistock and that he didn't know marianne, I think is wonderful!

Once they'd completed their assessment (ahead of their estimated time of 2 weeks), a treatment summy for what we'd asked for was sent out within days! I could not have been happier for my son. He was overjoyed!

The aftercare (we have only been with them a month) seems brilliant too. I had an email asking how my son was and how he's getting on with his medication and also to remind me to reorder (and how) and to organise blood tests etc. This could have been automated, but I replied and got a friendly response back.

I am over the moon that my son is being looked after so well now, and only sad he had to go through so much turmoil with GIDS.

My son is now feeling much more relaxed and is enjoying the experience of not being under pressure to prove who is to get what he needs anymore, he feels free.

I'm not sure jack has been on medication long enough for me to comment on that side of things as yet, but I am reassured that if it needs changing in anyway, this can and will be done swiftly and without fuss.

Sheryl

Our ftm son was on the NHS waiting list forever and when he eventually did see somebody, they kept moving the goal posts to get the hormone blockers - leaving him thoroughly depressed, frustrated and not knowing which way to turn. His future looked very bleak - if indeed, he had a future.

Without the remarkable Helen Webberley, our son would not be here. Because of the serious lacking in NHS care, our son was in a very dark place and even attempted suicide. Since obtaining hormone blockers and then testosterone, he is a much changed boy. He is being true to himself/his gender and it has turned his life around 100%.

We can't praise Dr. Webberley and GenderGP enough and thank them to the bottom of our hearts.

Ray

GenderGP has been, for me and many other trans people, a beacon through the darkness of the NHS. The NHS takes no regard to us and we are of little of no importance to them. We are often left unnoticed, misunderstood and left in the dark. GenderGP is the beacon that has led me to be heard, to be understood and most importantly to be taken seriously about my gender. They are guiding me through the pathway to becoming the me that I, and they, know me to be. They provide outstanding staff that listen, really listen and help us trans people down the correct path. I know personally I wouldn't unfortunately be here if it wasn't for Dr Helen Webberley founding GenderGP. As many people know trans persons suicide rate is high but

thanks to Dr Webberley many of us are taken away from that mindset, **shown that life is worth living,**

that there is people out there that want to help. That we don't have to wait years and years on a waiting list that feels like it will never end. I owe a great gratitude for Dr Helen Webberley and GenderGP. Thank you on behalf of all my trans brothers sisters.

Anon

By the time we felt we had to reach out for private help, we already felt we had exhausted every option and were in a state of emotional distress.

Thankfully Dr Webberley had plenty tissues, and was extremely professional. We have never once had any regrets or doubts about seeking her help.

And we have been along for the ride with her as she was attacked and discredited. I genuinely have no idea where all these accusations came from, but i know the accuser has never once offered any form of alternative for us, other than for us to be ignored and unsupported.

Anon

I first asked my GP for a referral to the GIC in January 2016. She refused, because she felt that I should only be getting help for my depression, failing to see the link between my dysphoria and depression. I had to wait until June 2018 to get a GP who would refer me to the Tavistock and Portman GIC. I have been on the waiting list ever since.

Going private was the only way to put a stop to the constant Kafka-esque waiting game for life-saving medical care.

My GP at the moment is qualified and competent enough to provide all the help I'm getting privately, but they don't, instead referring me back to expensive private clinics for simple blood tests. At least with GenderGP the waiting lists aren't several years long like they are with some other private services, let alone the NHS."

Shanon

I dread to think how I would be now if it wasn't for GenderGP.

I had started to enquire about getting testosterone on the black market because I was so desperate. They referred me to a great counsellor who listened to all that was happening. Recommended a company to get blood tests done and started me on testosterone. My GP would not assist or support me in any way but GenderGP have monitored my progress and adjusted my hormones as required. They have recommended surgeons for 'top' surgery and again counsellors we're available to discuss this course of action. I couldn't have felt more supported to make the right decisions and to grow into who I was always meant to be.



Kim

GenderGP has been incredibly helpful in my transition, they have provided counseling and support when I had trouble understanding my gender identity and never pushed me to make decisions in any way.

This freedom to make my own decisions and begin my transitioning has taken away so much stress and confusion from my life and I wouldn't be here without it, so many problems I had trying to explain my dysphoria to my GP and get help from them were lifted by the gender-affirmative stance of the GenderGP allowing me to make my own decisions.

Anon

I use GenderGP as a means of accessing the healthcare I need. They have reviewed my previous reports and

treat me like a human

and I am currently waiting for hormone therapy as I aim to complete my egg freezing process.

They take an extensive amount of time to ensure that the details are correct and recommend consultations and that they are provided with as many documents as possible. They are also in contact with my GP regularly and provide the best care possible.

Anon

Before I reached out to GenderGP, I had planned out my last suicide attempt- an attempt that would with 100% certainty kill me,

that I was planning on completing later that year.

GenderGP was my last hope, and they have saved my life.

They are an invaluable service, and are a necessity in the UK with the current state of the NHS gender services. I have suffered from mental health issues since I was 12 years old, with no therapy or psychiatric medication provided by the NHS working. At 23 years old I was finally able to start seeing someone about my issues with my gender because of GenderGP, for which I had no help at all through the NHS despite requesting it for years, and I no longer suffer from the mental health issues that have plagued me for most of my life. Because of GenderGP I am able to be a normally functioning adult for the first time, able to hold down a job and contribute to society and enjoy living when I was never able to before. My debilitating depression and anger management issues are now gone after 7 months on HRT and for the first time I can remember I have actually managed to experience emotional stability and happiness. GenderGP were the only service that I was able to access, since most are centralised around London which is very far away from me, and were also out of my price range. GenderGP has provided me an excellent and accessible service, and

I truly cannot thank them and Dr Webberley enough. I owe them everything.

Anon

I haven't personally seen her, but everyone at GenderGP is absolutely amazing! It is such a relief to be able to email any time and ask anything, I am very supported, and very pleased with the service and care received,

they go above and beyond to help and are always friendly and understanding.

I really couldn't have coped without them. I did my research on Helen, and it hasn't put me off in the slightest. She seems kind and passionate about helping people like me, and we need more Doctors like that in this world, the service is absolutely amazing, and the emotional support and understanding from everyone I have spoken to there, are very much how Helen was hoping the service would be. I am so glad she didn't give up and however this service is running, even without her, it is a true testament to her, she has already saved so many lives just by the service being available. There are some people who have never been different in their lives, and they will not understand, but just because you do not understand something, doesn't mean it is wrong.

Anon

I would not be where I am in my life without the support of GenderGP.

Their counselling support and their medical support has literally saved my life, as an older trans person. I would have been waiting 5+ years to even begin treatment and now I'm living my best life, with a diagnosis, hormone therapy and passport that reflects my gender.

GenderGP exists because structural issues with the current GIC system mean that there is no hope for trans and non-binary people to access life-saving treatment in anything like the foreseeable future. GenderGP check bloods and psychological health, and make sure you're healthy and safe, which is 1000 times better than buying hormones on the internet and doing things yourself.

All Dr Webberley did was to support trans people who were being left behind by the NHS.

Anon

My experience of Dr Helen Webberley has been always extremely positive. From the very early days of GenderGP her attitude towards myself was one of positive engagement.

I always felt that her treatment was honest, fair and professional.

My best interests, mentally and physically were always paramount. I felt I was at last valued and respected as a person, not to be dismissed because of my gender dysphoria. I felt she really does want to help me. I could clearly see that this was an ethic valued by other patients of GenderGP too. Her engagement with the whole trans society is one of positivity and inclusion.

Anon

GenderGP provided and continues to provide affirming and genuinely life saving healthcare to myself and several people I know, at a time when the NHS is not capable of doing it because of the lengthy waiting lists. The treatment this clinic offers is incredibly important to so many people and its staff are friendly and kind.

I can sincerely say that my life is drastically better for the existence of GenderGP.



Anon

GenderGP has given us help. Support. Care.

There is no support anywhere else. When I read foreign medical articles, watch documentaries and films from abroad where research is current and up to date in some countries, I crave for that support from our NHS. We haven't had that from the NHS, instead, we have found that from GenderGP. Dr Helen Webberley has set up a system for the trans community and their families that has been a lifeline when our own NHS has failed us.

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Our experience is that I'm not sure my child would be here without the support from GenderGP.

We have faced some tough times, and will continue to do so, but GenderGP has been the only place we can go for counselling, knowledge, and the medical help that we NEED. Their approach and support has allowed us to live our lives the way we need to. Yes we have to pay for it, and we are constrained by what we can afford, but it is the only thing we have when our health system refuses to support us in what we need.

Maryjane

I have been treated by Dr Webberely and GenderGP for 2 years, whilst i sit on an ever increasing, under funded NHS list. Without GenderGP i fear I may have self harmed or worse. Having been provided with counsellors and medication has help improve and change my life.

Cameron

Without GenderGP I would be absolutely lost, the support and the dedication I have received has changed my life for the better and let's me feel I can move forward with my life and not be waiting in limbo



Jules

This is a complex case, but I implore the GMC & MPTS to place patient care at the forefront of this investigation. The trans community seeking medical advice has increased exponentially over the last few years, and will only continue to increase. This is a community who feel trapped in their bodies. A community who on average has a considerably shorter life expectancy. Providing clinical care to trans teenagers means that they don't have to suffer undergoing puberty in the wrong body. There is an international precedent for providing clinical care for trans teenagers and it is statistically proven to produce happier and healthier trans adults. In founding GenderGP - Dr Webberley has provided trans children, teenagers and adults with a clear route to health and happiness. This is a key provision that British society lacks, due to a lack of funding in public Gender Clinics, and proceedings with Dr Webberley should be considerate of the GMC & MPTS's duty to trans patient care.

Jordynn

The NHS healthcare and processes for transgender people is absolutely diabolical. Their waiting times are ridiculous and when you try to contact them it's as if they don't want anything to do with you. I'm still waiting to hear back from the Nhs and it's been 3.5 years. That's a very long time yet I still haven't heard anything.

Imagine the only thing that is stopping you from truly starting your journey and being happy on the inside is a 4 year or a even longer wait time." "If it wasn't for Dr Helen Webberley. I wouldn't be where I am today.

I'm happy, confident, proud and free.

My experience here, it's been amazing I would happily recommend to anyone who would like to start their journey or even if it was just advice.

They do thorough assessments and counselling sessions before anything. But this is what we need to know we are on the right track to know our path.

She has an amazing team who are so professional and amazing and caring which is what we need.

Remus

An absolute god-send.

I was attempting to end things before I came across GenderGP, and it has saved not only my life, but countless others that I have directed to them when they were on the edge too. They are attentive, clear, compassionate and informed. Everything with them has run so smoothly, even when I faced challenges.

Tessa

Trying to get help through the NHS broke me. My doctor repeatedly refusing to help despite guidelines telling them to give a bridging prescription for HRT, the insanely long wait to be seen by a GIC and the complete lack of support during the wait.

Honestly thats one of the worst things about the nhs treatment. They expect you to wait years with no help what so ever while in the mean time you are absolutely tortured by your own existence.

Its honestly massively erroded my trust in my doctors because they have been so utterly useless to me.

I feel tortured by people who should provide care but are choosing not to. I was in severe pain and they just shrugged. Thats the NHS's treatemtn of trans people. At a time when we are particularly fragile they shrug and chuckle at our pain and act like we're making a big deal out of nothing.

GGP's care isnt perfect, in part because of the position they've been put in by being forced out of the uk but without them i would be a lot worse off right now.

Ive been on HRT for about a year now and i'm finally starting to feel comfortable in myself. Before i was depressed and my identity issues were tearing me apart. I am not the type of person who does well living from the inside out. My appearance has a big effect on my mental state and stability. I tried to explain this again and again to my NHS doctors but it makes no difference to them.

If i had had to wait until the GIC see's me at some point (i'm 2 years on the waiting list now with anything up to another 2 to wait) i think i'd be dead now.

Being able to actually access care (i am largely housebound and the online service was ideal for me) has meant the world to me and i would likely not be here without GGP.



Joe

Basically GenderGP have saved my life. I am now extremely happy now, living my life as the true me.

Loukas

GenderGP was quick and efficient at listening and taking care of my needs and in the process making sure to be safe in their practices which they have continued to do so in my time with them throughout. The services offered by the team of GenderGP are above and beyond what I would expect a single team working under pressure of an investigation threatening their very livelihoods and of the clients to be doing. I am grateful for their help and I will never forget it as they gave me the start to be me.

Melissa

If it was not for Dr Helen Webberley and her amazing work I honestly don't think I'd still be alive. GenderGP has literally saved my life, and i don't know what i would have done if it had not been there for me.

Aaron

When I initially contacted my GP about medically transitioning I was faced with confusion from everybody I talked to. My doctor had no idea how and who to contact about my question and didn't seem to have any intention of finding out how to. After being re-admitted to CAMHS I also enquired a referral to the under 16s gender clinic and was told they would 'look in to it', I followed up with CAMHS multiple times and each time the person I talked to either didn't know or would look in to it. I suffer greatly with gender dysphoria and medically transitioning was a life-saving asset for me, I cannot afford to go private on the NHS so i was stuck before starting testosterone with GenderGP. At one point I would not leave my house because I was so distressed at being perceived as female, I had no help from the NHS neither then nor now.

My experience with GenderGP has been wonderful,

their communication is always fast, straight-forward and helpful. During the negotiations with my doctor, the GenderGP team were able to work through the shared care plan with him effortlessly and informatively as he was not knowledgeable on the topic of medical transition or social transition. GenderGP as a trans healthcare provider is one of the best resources I personally have come across during my transition, the team genuinely strive to make your transition your own, they take everything you want from your transition in to consideration and I could not have wished for a better provider. As far as second choices go, I would say GenderGP's care was better than anything i've experienced from the NHS.

Toby

GenderGP is amazing,

I have been on Testosterone and a oestrogen blocker since February this year. Its saved me, I couldn't wait any longer, with the pain and distress caused by Dysphoria. Repeatedly I asked my doctor if there was anything I could do while I was waiting on Tavistock-GIDS waiting list and I was told no, I've been reffured and that's enough. No it is not! I am so glad I've found GenderGP. Saves people's lives, don't take that away!

Anon

Honestly Dr Helen Webberley is amazing ,

she has helped thousands of transgender people finally feel at home in their own skin

by providing them the care and support they need weather it be counselling with one of the team or if they need questions answered she will answer them, Most doctors who work in the transgender health care side are often nice and comforting but to find a caring and compassionate Person like Dr Helen Webberley is beyond amazing.

Without GenderGP and Dr Helen Webberley many many many transgender people would go without hormones and those who have just started the process will struggle to , GenderGP is another clinic there to help those who can't wait those long 4 years to start hormones as many other private clinics have 2 year waiting lists too , without GenderGP I wouldn't be here

they literally saved my life

and made me feel at home in my skin for once in my life I can feel normal like a regular man doing regular things , not getting misgendered or judged as I'm in hormones and everything is going well , they always take care of their patients and make sire hey are up to date on prescriptions and blood tests too.



Ethan

I wish to say thank you to Dr Helen Webberley. Without her help, charitable mindset and clear understanding of the transgender community, myself and many others would still be living a lie,

hating every moment of our lives when we are seen as the gender we simply are not and never were in our own eyes. Although I haven't met Dr Webberley personally yet, I do hope that someday I may as I would truly love to thank her for all the work she has done with GenderGP and for creating such a cohesive team who's support was unmeasured during my medical transition, thus far.

Artie

The allegations made by the GMC have not been made for the concern of patients, they have been made as part of an ongoing attack against transgender people in the UK. The NHS does not provide adequate care for transgender patients, and until it does GenderGP is vital in the safety and well-being of trans people in the UK.



Leo

I was given an at least 40 month wait time for an initial consultation for my GIC appointment. Something that I am still waiting for. My mental health crumbled and I became hugely depressed and suicidal because of the long wait, which led to me having to go onto antidepressants and quit my job.

Dr Webberley gave a me a full consultation and within 3 weeks after being confirmed, I had started HRT. As soon as I was on Testosterone, I was able to come off antidepressants and my mental health rapidly improved. She 100% saved my life. I would not be here today if it wasn't for Dr Webberley and GenderGP

Nathen

If it wasn't for GenderGP I can honestly say I wouldn't be here anymore, they literally saved my life.

Within 3 weeks of contacting them I had my diagnosis and was prescribed T. They send out regular email updates about their services and other things happening within the trans community, they also post regularly on social media. You can see the compassion they have for the trans community which is more than I can say for the NHS. After being on testosterone just over a year I am now looking at getting surgery privately with a referral from GenderGP. At this point I'd still have at least another year or so to wait for my second appointment with the nhs and would be no closer to even starting hormones never mind be thinking about surgeries they would again be years waiting. I personally think Dr Webberley and the team at GenderGP should be getting thanked for taking some weight off of an already struggling nhs. They've saved the lives of so many transgender people, not just myself. They should not be getting thrown to the dogs like this. They deserve praise and recognition for all that they do.

Anon

We first tried to access NHS healthcare provision for my transgender daughter in February 2020. We asked for a referral to GIDS, but it was never completed, even though we were told it was. Even if it had been completed, it would not have brought help in time for my daughter. She is now 15 and will not realistically get help from the NHS until she is well into her 20s. We couldn't even access counselling for her under the NHS. Constantly told to refer to CAHMS, we were denied help through them because she was "not suicidal enough". The fact that my daughter was self-harming, suffering extreme anxiety and becoming a recluse was not enough to warrant help.

Our new GP (we moved house so had to register with a new practice) encouraged us to use the GenderGP service if we possibly could because he believed the NHS service for transgender youth is (and I quote) "not fit for purpose"

We began using the GenderGP service in February 2021. We accessed information about what treatment would entail, accessed psychotherapy for my daughter, which has been amazing, and after three months (during which time we continued our research and discussions) my daughter began hormone treatment, having already been through male puberty.

This service has saved her life.

She was increasingly depressed, missing school due to depression and dysphoria, and told me she often went to sleep hoping to wake up in the morning. The NHS was unable to help with any of this, not even through counselling. The only thing I could do to keep my daughter alive and help her come through her depression was access private transgender healthcare for her. We are not out of the woods yet - it's only been 6 months since she got help through counselling and only a couple of months since her hormone treatment started but the difference in her is amazing. She goes to school, she sees friends again, she spends time with the family instead of shutting herself away. She still has bad days of course, but she is no longer suicidal and is not self harming. She is looking forward to the future again and is smiling!

I have no doubt that she would have died through suicide before NHS services were made available to her.

Miranda

GenderGP saved my life.

Had the option for GenderGP not been in my life. I'd have drowned myself on my 25th birthday, i'd written letters to my loved ones and family detailing why i had done this and went through all of the measures to make sure my pets were looked after.

I was at my limit, i couldn't go on and i was terrified i'd go to the doctor and spend an hour being talked around and told i wasn't transgender or that i didn't fit the criteria or ""to take more time to think about it"" While my body warped and changed and everyday I became further and further from being who i wanted to me.

GenderGP saved my life. I recieved fast and effective treatment and was able to steer my life in the direction i wanted. I'm 28 now. I've been living as a woman for 3 and a half years since i contacted GenderGP. I go out, i socialise, i found a confidence i never had before. All thanks to GenderGP.

I would say Helen and her clinic saved my life.

Terri

Working with her service I have found the care I have received invaluable, compassionate and completed with due diligence which is a far cry from the NHS experience so far.

Aibhne

The NHS has failed entirely at providing adequate healthcare to transgender patients. The wait lists and overbearing requirements leave people, especially the young and vulnerable, forced to decide between risky DIY treatment, expensive private care, or severe detriment to their mental and physical health - this is contrary to the NHS charter and decency; those most critical of Dr Webberley and the GenderGP service are the same people taking away any proper provision of counseling and medical support for those most in need.

Duncan

They actually helped me, they let me get hormones and kept me from making the ultimate mistake



More info

Click here to start your journey
with us today

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Learn more about GenderGP at
www.GenderGP.com

