



Tribunals Service
Gender Recognition Panel

Guidelines for medical practitioners and chartered psychologists

To facilitate completion of the Medical Report Proforma for Gender Recognition

Gender Recognition Act 2004

Updated January 2009

Standard Applications

Note to applicants: you should not make an appointment with your medical practitioner or chartered psychologist. Please post the form or leave it at the office of the person who you wish to fill it in, if necessary marked 'private and confidential'. You should also arrange to pick the form up when it has been completed.

Overview of the Process

The Gender Recognition Act 2004 has established the Gender Recognition Panel to determine applications from transsexual people who wish to be legally recognised in their acquired gender. To gain a Gender Recognition Certificate, individuals must apply providing medical evidence, or proof that they have had their gender recognised by an 'approved' system overseas.

Your patient has chosen to apply using the standard application process. The Gender Recognition Act stipulates that he or she is required to provide two reports, from different medical practitioners or a medical practitioner and a specialist chartered psychologist, as evidence of diagnosis of gender dysphoria or a gender-related disorder.

The requirements that relate to the evidence provided by the applicant's medical practitioner or chartered psychologist are described below.

The evidence required

All medical reports submitted to the Gender Recognition Panel must be supplied by a person registered with the General Medical Council (GMC), the British Psychological Society (BPS) and the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCP).

An application made by a person who is aged at least 18 on the basis that they have lived in the acquired gender throughout the period of two years ending with the date on which the application is made must include the following medical evidence:

The applicant is required to submit two reports:

One report made by:

- registered medical practitioner practising in the field of gender dysphoria*

OR

- chartered psychologist practising in that field*

This report must include details of the diagnosis of the applicant's gender dysphoria.

- The Gender Recognition Panel maintains a list of specialists in the field of gender dysphoria and a specialist report must come from a medical practitioner or chartered psychologist who features on this list.

AND:-

One report made by:

a registered medical practitioner (who may, but need not, practise in the field of gender dysphoria)

If the applicant has undergone, is undergoing or has planned any treatment for the purpose of modifying sexual characteristics, one of the reports must include **specific** details of this.

The Legal Position

Under the Gender Recognition Act, information relating to an application for a gender recognition certificate is 'protected information' if it is acquired in a professional capacity. It is an offence to disclose protected information to any other person except under the specific circumstances outlined in section 22 of the Gender Recognition Act 2004. A full list of exemptions can be found at section 22(4) of the Act but approved reasons will include disclosure

- where the information has been anonymised;
- to which the person has agreed;
- to comply with a court order;
- to meet obligations imposed by other statutes.

You should note however that there is no general exemption for a disclosure in the 'public interest'.

Your patient has approached you in an official capacity and as a result any information relating to this application is now protected information. If other people are to have access to your files, you will need to obtain the patient's consent before recording any information that could later be seen by a third party. This is true regardless of whether your patient's application is successful.

Checklist to assist completion of the proforma

1. Is your patient 18 or over?

Yes Please continue with this checklist to see if you can make a medical report to support their application for recognition in their acquired gender

No Please explain to your patient that they cannot apply for recognition in their new gender until they are 18 years old

2. Are you a registered medical practitioner or chartered psychologist practising in the field of gender dysphoria (and featured on the list of specialists held by the Gender Recognition Panel)?

Yes Please provide details of the diagnosis of your patient's gender dysphoria in your report.

No Please provide details of the treatment provided to your patient related to his or her gender dysphoria.

3. Has your patient undergone surgical treatment for the purpose of modifying sexual characteristics?

Yes If you are able to, please list the surgical procedures undergone at 11, below.

No If you are able to, please explain why no surgery has been undertaken for this purpose at 11, below.

Medical Report Proforma for Gender Recognition

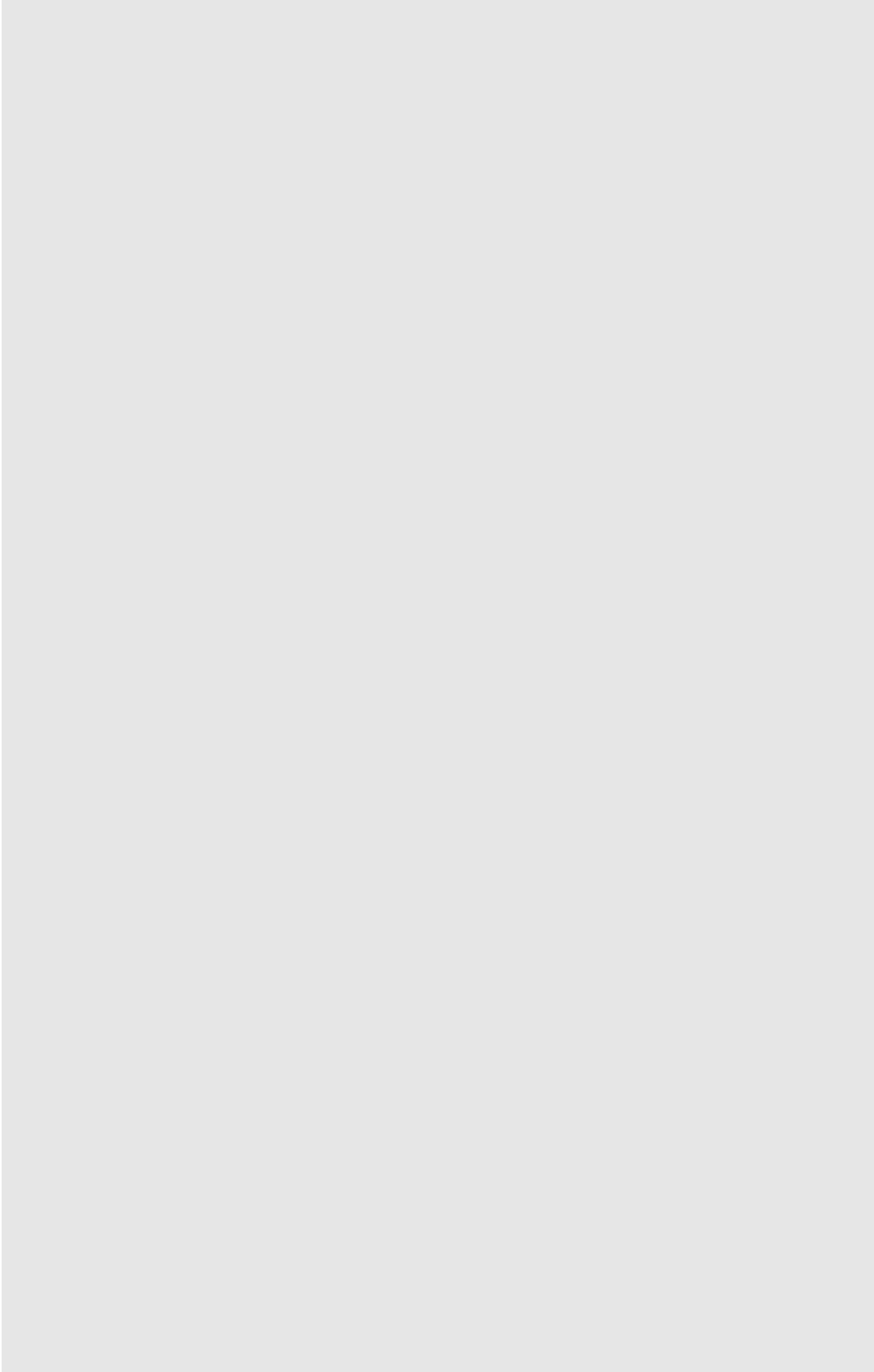
Gender Recognition Act 2004

To be completed by the applicant's medical practitioner or chartered psychologist

- 1 Your name
- 2 Your title
- 3 Your practice address
- 4 Your telephone number
- 5 Your GMC/BPS/RCP registration number
- 6 Are you a specialist in the field of gender dysphoria (and you feature on the list of specialists held by the Gender Recognition Panel)? Yes No
- 7 Your patient's name
- 8 How long has the patient been under your care?
- 9 Has your patient been diagnosed with gender dysphoria or a gender-related disorder? Yes No
- 10 Has your patient had surgical treatment for the purpose of modifying his or her sexual characteristics? Yes No Cannot comment

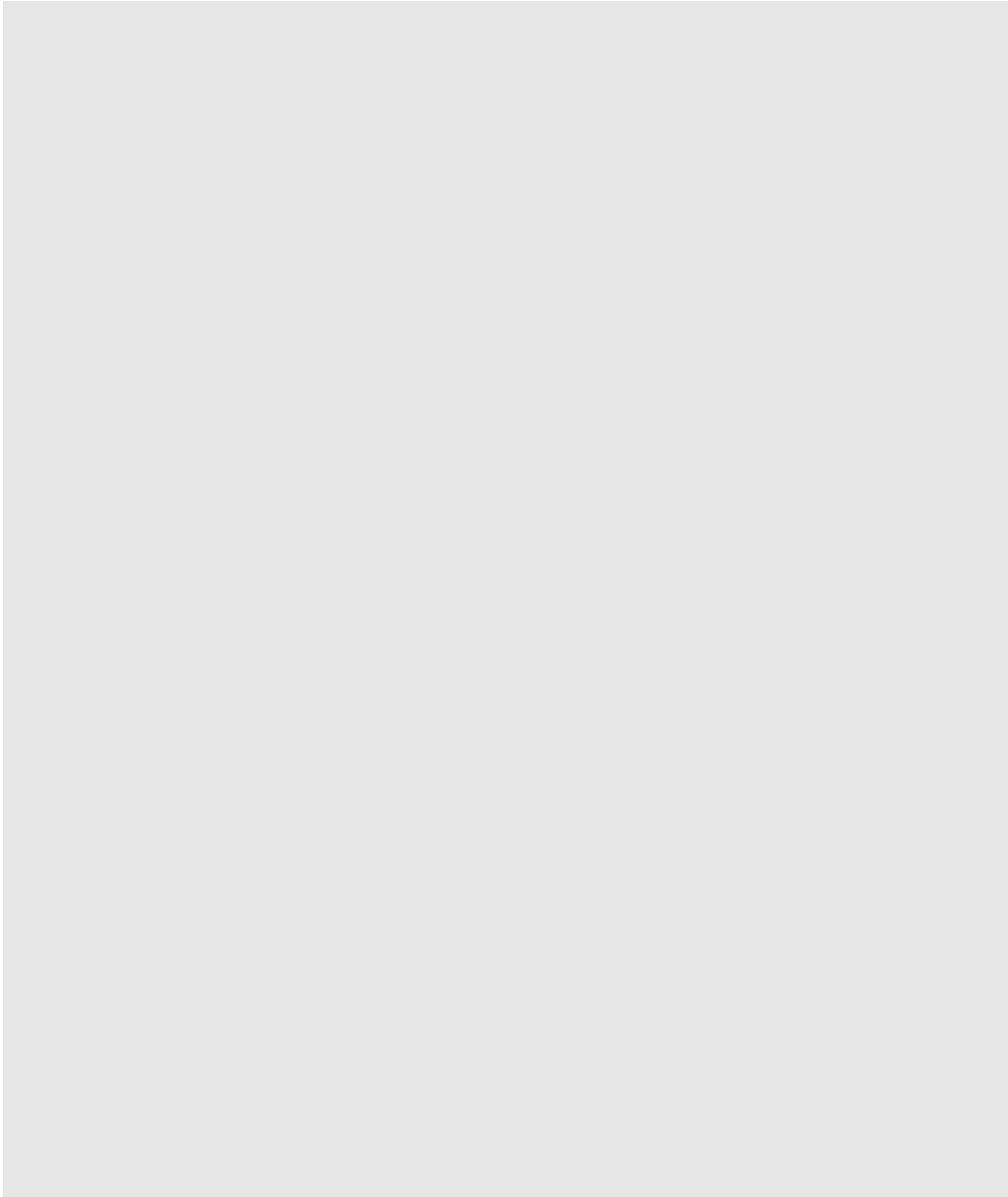
11 Please provide details of the gender related diagnosis for which your patient is being or has been treated

You should list drugs and/or surgical and psychological procedures your patient has received

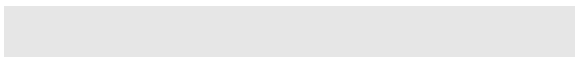


12 If possible, please list the specific surgical procedures that your patient has undergone for purpose of modifying sexual characteristics

If your patient has not undergone surgery for this purpose, one of his or her reports will need to explain why not



Report made on (date)



By (signature)

