

# CONCERNED WOMEN *for* AMERICA

## **Finland study debunks claim that sex-rejecting procedures are “lifesaving” Psychiatric morbidity worse before and after medical treatment**

**The study:** [Psychiatric Morbidity Among Adolescents and Young Adults Who Contacted Specialised Gender Identity Services in Finland in 1996–2019: A Register Study](#)

First of its kind scientifically rigorous, nationally representative analysis of gender dysphoric youth spanning three decades.

Long-term study included over 2000 clinic-referred “gender reassignment” patients under age 23 between 1996 and 2019 matched against control groups of over 16,600.

Study aimed to examine the differences in psychiatric morbidity for adolescents referred to clinics before and after “gender reassignment” compared to control groups.

### **The findings:**

Gender clinic-referred adolescents showed high psychiatric morbidity both before and two years or more after referral compared to matched control groups.

Among adolescents who underwent medical gender reassignment, psychiatric morbidity increased significantly during follow-up—rising from 9.8% to 60.7% for boys seeking “feminizing gender reassignment” and from 21.6% to 54.5% for girls seeking “masculinizing gender reassignment”.

Patients referred after 2010 (when referrals surged by ten-fold) displayed “noticeably more psychiatric morbidity” than those referred earlier.

Specialist-level psychiatric treatment needs increased after medical transition treatment.

### **In summary:**

Gender dysphoric adolescents “had markedly higher psychiatric morbidity than controls before and after referral, with treatment needs often persisting and even intensifying after medical interventions—on some, they might even have a negative impact.”

### **Authors conclude:**

“Severe psychiatric morbidity is common among gender-referred adolescents and appears to be more prevalent in those referred after the recent surge in referrals. Psychiatric needs do not subside after medical gender reassignment.”