

Dear Ms Gillies-Wright,

I am Lead clinician at the Sexual Problems clinic, New Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and spend almost all my time there dealing with patients with Gender difficulties. I read with interest the RC Psych Guidelines and would like to add a couple of comments.

I have been involved with patients who were affected by the closure of the Newcastle Gender unit many of whom were abandoned mid-treatment. I feel strongly that the Health Authority should have a responsibility to continue caring for these patients by at least signposting them to their closest alternative clinic (which unfortunately may be several hundred miles away) Added to this I think waiting times are currently unacceptable for these patients due to the very small number of specialist units. I would support the introduction of specialist GPs but wonder how they could be funded. I also feel that self-referral to a specialist clinic is appropriate, having come across patients whose referral was blocked by their GP.

Regards, Lyndsey Myskow