



# Trans Health Project

Working for Transgender Equal Rights

## Minnesota Medicaid Regulations and Guidance

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**Minnesota Medicaid policy covers transgender-related health care.**

### Decisions:

**Court Decision:** [OutFront Minnesota v. Johnson Piper, No. 62-CV-15-7501 \(Minn. Dist. Ct. Nov. 14, 2016\)](#)

#### Summary:

A Minnesota district court found that a categorical exclusion for sex reassignment surgery violates the Minnesota Constitution's guarantees of equal protection and the right of an individual to have authority over their own body.

**Court Decision:** [Doe v. Minnesota Department of Public Welfare, 257 N.W. 2d 816 \(Minn. 1977\)](#)

#### Summary:

The Minnesota Supreme Court found that (1) total exclusion of transsexual surgery from Medical Assistance coverage is void under federal regulations governing state Medicaid programs; (2) a standard of medical necessity that requires conclusive proof that a procedure will eliminate disability and render the applicant self-supporting is impermissible; and (3) the decision to deny Medical Assistance funding in the absence of evidence to contradict the applicant's showing of medical necessity is arbitrary and unreasonable.

### Handbooks and Provider Manuals:

**Provider Manual:** [Minnesota Provider Manual](#)

### Historical Notes:

[Health Services Advisory Council Minutes](#) (2016)

Editorial Board, Minn. L. Rev., [Medicaid Funding for Transsexual Surgery](#), 63 Minnesota Law Review 1037 (1979).

Minn. Stat. Ann. § 256B.0625 Subd. 3a reads: "Sex reassignment surgery. Sex reassignment surgery is not covered." *Outfront Minnesota* No. 62-CV-15-7501 (Minn. Dist. Ct. Nov. 14, 2016) and the provider manual abrogate the statute.

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