

# “PROUD” in the Perioperative Service

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**PROUD stands for “Promoting Respect, Outreach, Understanding and Dignity.”**

\*\* The “PROUD Family Health” Program is the first LGBTQ-focused guideline that has been endorsed and implemented by our facilities in NJ as part of our diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) practice.

To respect our patient’s preferred identity, gender markers have been removed from the wristband and the patient’s preferred name is addressed both on their chart and wristband. Perioperative care of patients include a welcome environment, open communication, and visits from our “LGBTQ Patient Navigator” pre and post surgery.

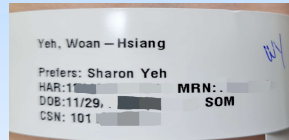
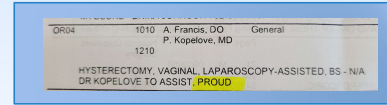
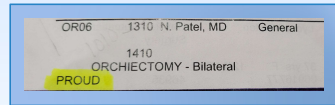


Image source: Citybeats.com

You can help create an LGBTQ-inclusive care environment and respectful connected relationships with your LGBTQ patients. Be Consistent, respectful, and practice using inclusive language with ALL patients, Be active and visible - visibly display your non-discrimination policy, Be informed – keep learning about health disparities and their unique impacts on LGBTQ people.

To ensure transgender patients are treated with professionalism, courtesy and respect; guidelines have been established for interacting with transgender patients. Continuing education on LGBTQ recognition is an ongoing process for hospital staff.



### Proper Communication

“The patient/client is here in the waiting room”

“What is your Prefer name?”

“How can I make you more comfortable?”

“Do you have a partner? Are you in a relationship?”

### Patient’s Experience:

“Simple things like having the names and pronouns that you want right in your chart make you feel respected for who you are,” Gwyndolin says. “One of the biggest benefits of having LGBTQIA-focused healthcare is that patients feel included and respected and not made to feel they’re different or strange or subjected to invasive curiosity, which I’ve definitely felt at doctor’s office before.”

