

# Chinese gender incongruence population mental health research

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| <b>Submission date</b><br>11/04/2024   | <b>Recruitment status</b><br>Recruiting | <input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered<br><input type="checkbox"/> Protocol            |
| <b>Registration date</b><br>06/05/2024 | <b>Overall study status</b><br>Ongoing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results |
| <b>Last Edited</b><br>28/08/2025       | <b>Condition category</b><br>Other      | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data  |

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

Gender incongruence refers to an individual's experienced gender not conforming with their assigned sex at birth, which could both affect appearance and personal feelings and may cause social problems and mental health crises. China may have the largest population of gender incongruence, which requires medical care and societal understanding. However, the cause of gender incongruence is still unknown. This study aims to search for possible social and psychological characteristics and biological markers to support the healthcare of people with gender incongruence.

### Who can participate?

Individuals aged 18 to 45 years who come to Shanghai Mental Health Center and meet the ICD-11 diagnostic criteria for gender incongruence

### What does the study involve?

Participants complete mental health and gender incongruence screening scales and questionnaires. They also undergo an MRI scan and provide a blood sample for genetic sequencing and hormone tests.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Participants are recommended to clinical qualified consultants and HRT doctors for further healthcare. The possible risks include the required blood sample.

### Where is the study run from?

Shanghai Mental Health Center (China)

### When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

January 2021 to December 2030

### Who is funding the study?

Shanghai Mental Health Center (China)

Who is the main contact?  
Liu Na, liunamsx@126.com

## Contact information

### Type(s)

Principal investigator

### Contact name

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## Additional identifiers

### Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)

Nil known

### Protocol serial number

Nil known

## Study information

### Scientific Title

Social psychological characteristics and related biological studies of gender incongruence populations

### Study objectives

1. Based on the Gender Incongruence population in the outpatient clinic of Shanghai Mental Health Center, investigate the basic situation and psychosomatic health level of the gender incongruence population, and explore the psychological characteristics and related influencing factors of the gender incongruence population.
2. Develop a screening questionnaire for gender incongruence populations and form a localized screening tool.
3. Preliminarily explore the biological characteristics of genetics and imaging in gender incongruence populations, so as to provide a theoretical basis for the diagnosis of gender incongruence.

### Ethics approval required

Ethics approval required

### Ethics approval(s)

approved 28/02/2022, Shanghai Mental Health Center Ethics Committee (SMHC-IRB (Shanghai Mental Health Center, Shanghai, 200030, China; +86 (0)34773308; wuyanru\_qiushui@aliyun.com), ref: 2021-76

### Study design

Observational cross-sectional study

### Primary study design

Observational

### Study type(s)

Diagnostic, Other, Screening

### Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Social psychological characteristics and related biological markers of gender incongruence populations

## **Interventions**

Based on the gender incongruence population in the outpatient clinic of Shanghai Mental Health Center, this study will investigate the basic situation and psychosomatic health level of the gender incongruence population, and explore the psychological characteristics and related influencing factors of the gender incongruence population.

Participants complete mental health and gender incongruence screening scales and questionnaires. They also undergo an MRI scan and provide a blood sample for genetic sequencing and hormone tests.

## **Intervention Type**

Other

## **Primary outcome(s)**

1. Psychological characteristics measured using the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI), the self-report symptom inventory, Symptom Checklist (SCL-90), the Self-rating Depression Scale (SDS), Self-Rating Anxiety Scale (SAS), Life Events Scale (LES) and Yale-Brown Obsessive-Compulsive Scale at baseline
2. Biological characteristics measured using MRI, whole exome sequencing and hormone test at baseline

## **Key secondary outcome(s)**

1. Degree of gender incongruence measured using the Gender Incongruence Screening scale at baseline
2. The basic information of the gender incongruence population measured using a self-made questionnaire at baseline

## **Completion date**

31/12/2030

## **Eligibility**

### **Key inclusion criteria**

Meets ICD-11 diagnostic criteria for gender incongruence

### **Participant type(s)**

Patient, Population

### **Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

### **Age group**

Adult

### **Lower age limit**

18 years

### **Upper age limit**

45 years

**Sex**

All

**Key exclusion criteria**

Mental retardation and/or unable to complete the questionnaires and scale assessments

**Date of first enrolment**

03/06/2022

**Date of final enrolment**

31/12/2030

**Locations****Countries of recruitment**

China

**Study participating centre****Shanghai Mental Health Center**

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**Study participating centre****Tongji Hospital of Tongji University**

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200065

**Sponsor information****Organisation**

Shanghai Mental Health Center

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/05bd2wa15>

**Funder(s)**

## Funder type

Hospital/treatment centre

## Funder Name

Shanghai Mental Health Center

# Results and Publications

## Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

This study chooses not to provide raw data because it involves GI populations' personal privacy. It may be provided in a statistical format and images. Please contact Liu Na (liunamsx@126.com).

## IPD sharing plan summary

Not expected to be made available

## Study outputs

| Output type                     | Details | Date created | Date added | Peer reviewed? | Patient-facing? |
|---------------------------------|---------|--------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <a href="#">Results article</a> |         | 22/08/2025   | 28/08/2025 | Yes            | No              |
| <a href="#">Other files</a>     |         |              | 11/04/2024 | No             | No              |