



Version: 27 October 2023

## ONLINE DISCUSSION **Ageing with Pride: Healthcare for Older LGBTI people in Europe**

**Date: 6 November 2023****Time: 09:00-13:35 CET****Location: Online Event****Link (viewers only): [Zoom](#)***If you would like to participate actively (ask the floor/chat), please [register here](#)***[Programme and documents](#)**

### *Background*

This online discussion on healthcare for older LGBTI people is part of the Council of Europe's annual thematic reviews on the implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2010\)5](#) to member States on measures to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. This year's review is examining gaps between Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5 and national legislation, policies, implementation, and impact on healthcare access for LGBTI individuals. It aims to collect promising practices, learn from successful initiatives that have improved healthcare access for LGBTI communities across Europe, and formulate actionable steps to address identified gaps and enhance healthcare inclusivity. The review is focusing on four topics that address the healthcare needs of LGBTI people, as well as areas where LGBTI people experience significant barriers to health: [trans-specific healthcare \(TSHC\)](#), [healthcare for older people](#), [mental health](#), and [sexual and reproductive health and rights \(SRHR\)](#). The findings will contribute to a European-wide report on the topic scheduled to be published by the Council of Europe around May 2024.

### *Aims and Topics*

This roundtable will delve into critical issues related to healthcare for older LGBTI people, shedding light on challenges and complexities faced by the community with the aim of fostering a better understanding and identify practical solutions for the following key areas:

1. **Overall health situation of older LGBTI people:** We shall explore what is known about the health situation of older LGBTI persons as well as the barriers in accessing health care that they may experience because of their SOGIESC.
2. **Human rights violations in health contexts for older LGBTI people:** We shall explore challenges to the respect of human rights of older LGBTI persons in health settings such as recognition of intimate partners as next of kin; discrimination faced in residential care and assisted living, long-term consequences of interventions on intersex people, training of health care and care practitioners. We will also explore what inclusive practices in care settings such as residential care facilities look like.

3. **Dementia services, palliative, and end of life care:** We shall take a look at the experiences of older LGBTI people living with conditions such as cancer, dementia or other chronic or degenerative conditions and how they are supported particularly in the context of a lack of kinship networks or where being out as an LGBTI person is not an option. We will also discuss what health care providers can do to ensure that LGBTI people feel safe to access care and what inclusive care settings for older LGBTI people may look like.
4. **Community-based interventions and good practice:** We shall explore the diversity in care options that are possible and available, such as in-home care solutions, and what can be done to address the risk of loneliness or isolation such as befriending programmes that can provide support to older LGBTI people.

## *Format*

Each session will cover a topic and include:

- Overview: Presentation on promising practices and needed changes
- Community Engagement: Insights and reflections from LGBTI communities
- Member State Perspectives: Views from government representatives
- Open Discussion: An opportunity for dialogue and collaboration

## *Target Audience*

The event welcomes a diverse array of participants, including policymakers from national and regional governments, authorities and representatives actively engaged in healthcare policy and legislation, healthcare professionals encompassing administrators, public health experts, doctors, nurses, and mental health practitioners, as well as community healthcare workers, researchers, activists, and advocates. We extend our invitation to anyone with a vested interest in enhancing healthcare access and inclusivity for older LGBTI people in Europe.

## *Get Involved*

If you have inquiries or would like to actively participate and share your best practices, please reach out to Ellsworth Camilleri at [ellsworth.camilleri@coe.int](mailto:ellsworth.camilleri@coe.int). We welcome your engagement and contributions.

*Mark your calendar and stay tuned for further details on this engaging and impactful event. The [programme](#) will be available [here](#) at a later stage. We look forward to your participation in advancing healthcare access for LGBTI communities in Europe.*

## *Other discussions in this series*

[Advancing Healthcare Access for Trans People](#), 18 October 2023

[LGBTI Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights](#), 8 November 2023

[Advancing Healthcare Access for LGBTI People in Europe](#), 15 November 2023

[Elevating Mental Healthcare for LGBTI people](#), 1 December 2023