



MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS FOR GENDER TRANSITION

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**CONDITIONS TO
RECOGNIZE
A TRANSSEXUAL**

**Conditions
for hormone
therapy**

(5)

Be 16 years of age or above (16-18) with the consent of a parent or guardian

(1)

Have a complete biological sex

(4)

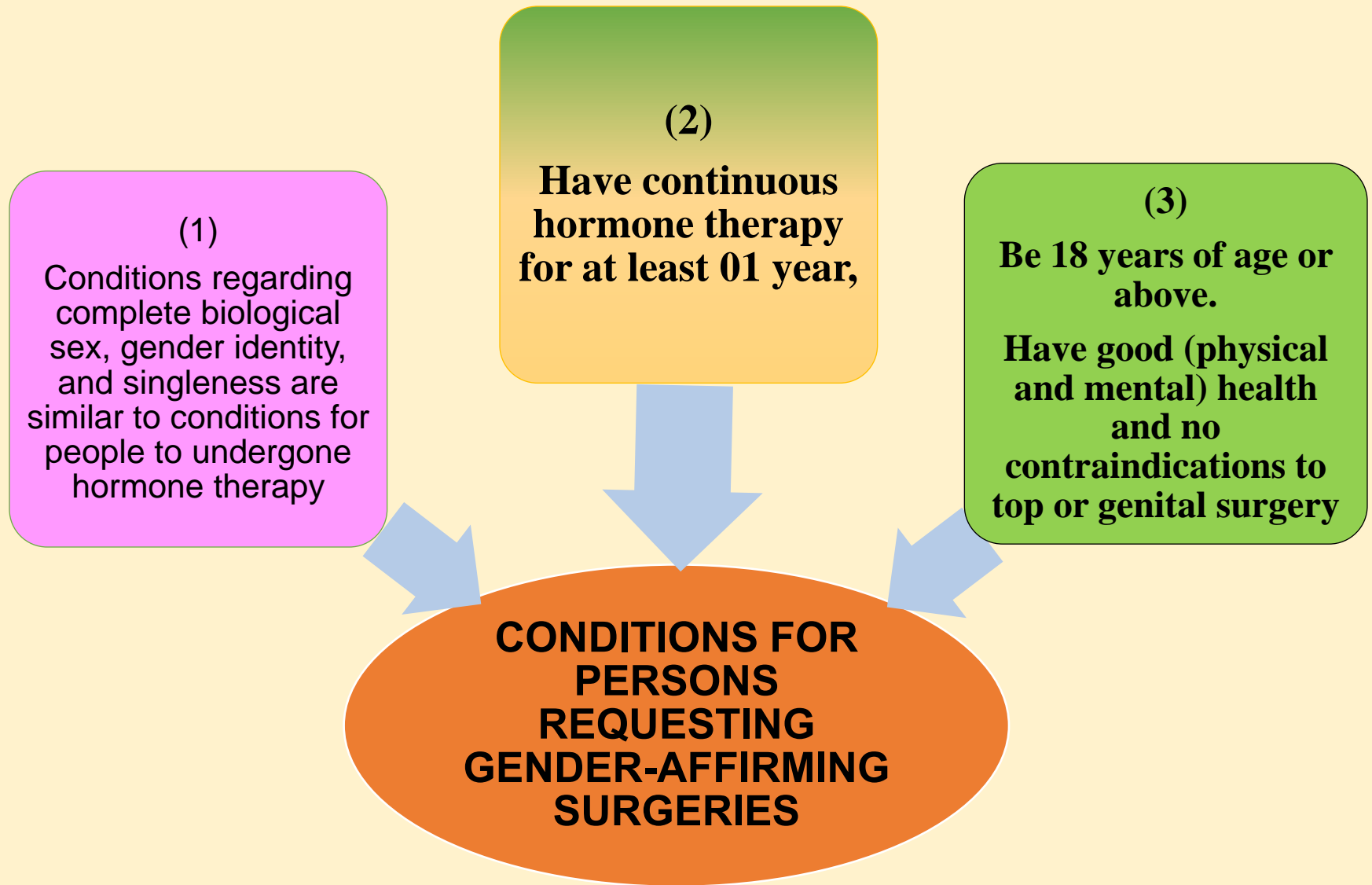
Have good (mental and physical) health and no contraindications to sex hormone therapy

(2)

Have a gender identity different from the current biological sex

(3)

Be a single person



CONDITIONS ON MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

There are more than 90 countries and territories over the world that legalize the right to gender transition. In which:

- (1) Case 1: Persons who want gender transition must have medical interventions, i.e. continuous hormone therapy for a certain period or gender-affirming top/genital surgery. For example: Italy, Spain, Hong Kong SAR, Singapore, etc.
- (2) Case 2: Persons who want gender transition without medical interventions only need to submit an application to the competent authority, which specifies the wish to be acknowledged as a transsexual, attached with the Written Confirmation from a psychologist. For example: Argentina, Canada, South Africa, Israel, Germany, Malta, etc.
- (3) Case 3: Persons who want gender transition must have complete top and genital surgeries, including complete removal of internal organs, e.g. ovaries or vas deferens. For example: Czech, Sweden, Turkey, Japan, etc.

Global trends

- Not every person who wants gender transition meets the financial and health requirements, etc.
- Many countries are very progressive, which respect human rights and value self-determination
- 11 countries and territories, which previously required (partial or complete) medical interventions to be gender-affirmed, now has removed such requirements, including New Zealand (2020), Iceland (2019), Serbia (2019), Pakistan (2019), Brazil (2018), Belgium (2018), Jammu and Kashmir, India (2017), Greece (2017), Australia (2017), Peru (2016), Norway (2016). In fact, gender transition neither changes the identity of a person (fingerprints, blood type, etc.) nor affects national security and defence, etc. Therefore, the most prioritized right of the transsexual to change their gender identities on documents should not be limited for any reason.

Suggestions for solutions on recognized medical interventions



Have sex hormone therapy for at least 02 consecutive year



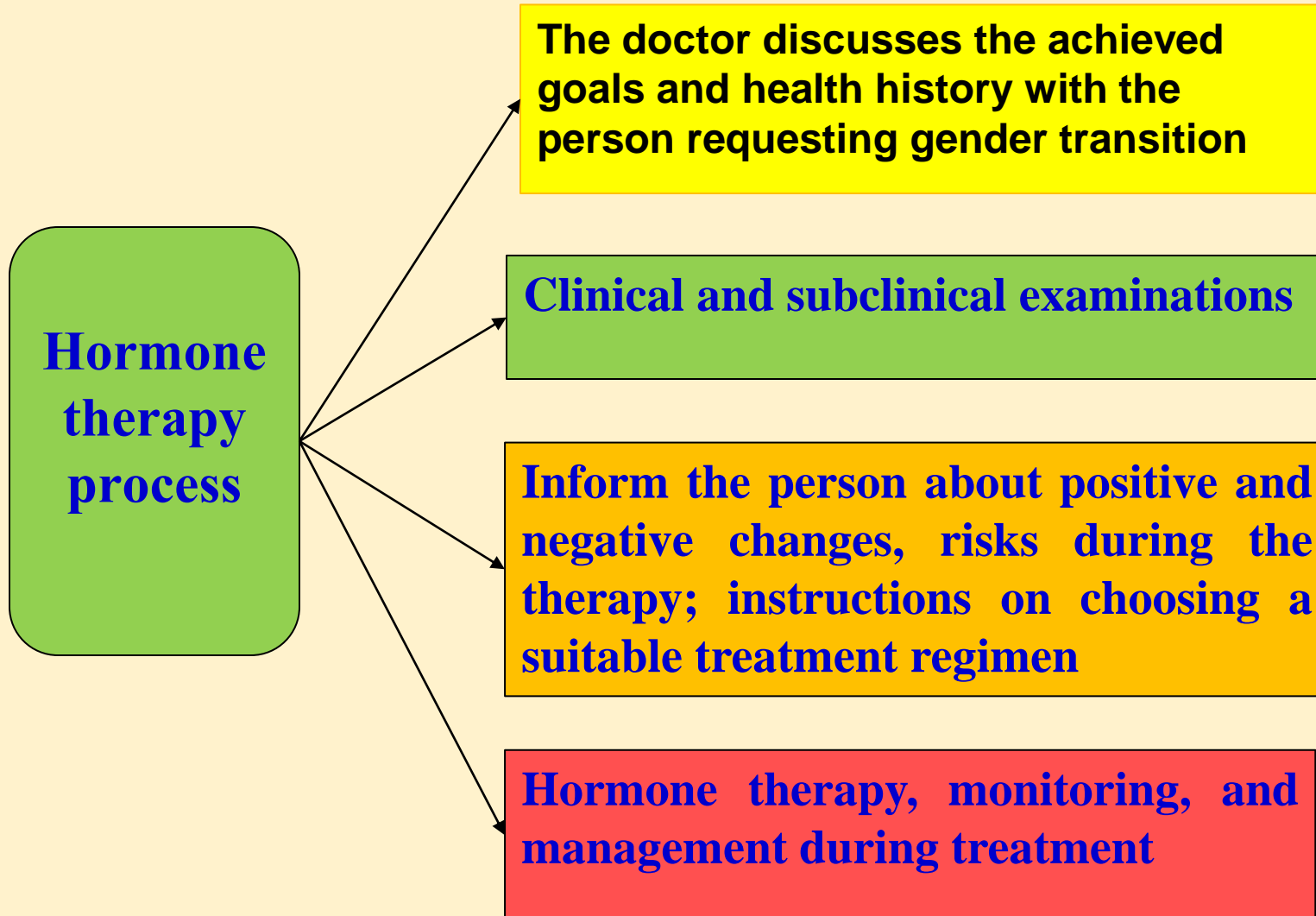
Had top or genital surgery



Had full surgery for gender transition



PROFESSIONAL PROCESS FOR SEX HORMONE THERAPY



PROFESSIONAL PROCESS FOR GENDER-AFFIRMING TOP/GENITAL SURGERY

- Have a discussion with the requesting person about surgical methods, pros and cons, effectiveness, risks, and complications of each method
- Make a medical record and treatment plan;
- Conduct clinical and subclinical examinations to determine whether the person requesting gender transition has qualified health conditions for surgery or contraindications to surgery;
- For cases of gender transition from male to female: Undergone sex hormone therapy for 01 (one) year then have a top surgery by either breast implants or fat transfer; genital surgery: penectomy, orchiectomy; vaginoplasty;
- For cases of gender transition from female to male: breast reduction, chest masculinization; genital surgery: hysterectomy, oophorectomy, salpingectomy; phalloplasty.
- The Minister of Health should be assigned to provide regulations on this.

Positive impacts:

1. Gender recognition should be done step by step to avoid affecting social order and relevant legal, social relations.
2. Suitable for Viet Nam's current context and traditional customs (which have not allowed same-sex marriage and non-binary gender recognition).
3. The requirement that a person must have medical interventions and change gender identity to be recognized as a transsexual facilitates the State's management of the transsexual.
4. The state management agencies on health and civil status justice have solid grounds to identify a transsexual and change relevant civil status documents.
5. Contribute to the development of techniques for gender-affirming medical interventions at hospitals, thereby increasing revenues for medical facilities and avoiding foreign currency outflow due to the fact that Vietnamese people go abroad for gender-affirming surgery. The transsexual receive timely, regular, and quality health care.
6. Sex hormone therapy is supported by persons who want gender transition because surgery is not required and they are easily accepted by other people due to the consistency between their appearance and the reaffirmed gender on civil status documents.
7. The use of hormones is also convenient and suitable for the financial conditions of those who want gender transition.

Negative impacts:

1. There are mixed opinions about this solution.
2. In fact, not every person who wants gender transition has qualified financial and health conditions for gender-affirming medical interventions.
3. For those who have undergone medical interventions, especially surgery, their health and working capacity are greatly impacted. Therefore, if the State applies this solution, there will be indirect losses in terms of health care costs, social security, and employment for the transsexual.
4. Further administrative procedures are needed, where hospitals must expand their scope of operations to be allowed for gender-affirming medical interventions and provide forms and commitments when doing such interventions. It also affects the system of legal documents where the Minister of Health must issue professional guidelines on gender-affirming medical interventions.

THANK YOU!

