



On the relationship between gender and embodied information experience within healthcare settings

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Background

Trans people face numerous **barriers when accessing healthcare** as well as numerous health disparities

Most studies focusing on the family relationships of transgender people do not explore their **information practice and information sought** by transgender peoples' families

Information sharing with healthcare providers and family members entails presenting "**deeply meaningful information**", as defined by Huttunen and Kortelainen (2021)

Proposed Methods

- **Ethnographic approach** using observations, interviews, focus groups, and diaries
 - Factors in time and how embodiment changes as the relationship progresses
 - Mitigates attitude-behavior consistency
 - Provides context and reasoning for behaviors
- Qualitative Data will be **inductively open-coded with in-vivo codes**
 - Process, descriptive, and emotion code
 - Analytical memos will be generated concurrently with coding
- Second cycle of coding performed after a few interviews
- Member-checking for feedback on interpretations

Research Aims

Describe how transgender, or trans, people use **embodied information** that conforms to cisgender understandings of gender, such as the wrong body narrative, during interactions with healthcare providers and within family relationships

Extend our understanding of embodied information practices through the application of linguistic theories of code-switching

Interrogate how power dynamics shape information practices

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Code-Switching

Domain Specific Code-Switching

Switching language based on domains

Domain included family, friendship, religion, education, work, and government

Topics influence behavior

Communication Accommodation Theory (CAT)

Communication behaviors between people, including speech and non-verbal cues

Different factors influence behavior

Queer Linguistics

Language use of the LGBTQ+ community

Cultural attitudes and phrases used to navigate everyday situations

Code swishing (Decena, 2011)

Colloquial Understanding of Code-Switching

Presentation strategy employed by individuals of marginalized groups

Dual consciousness, an individual's awareness that they are "the other"

Literature Review

Information Embodiment

Is experienced, enacted, and expressed (Bates, 2018)

Transgender people's adoption of expected narratives echo code-switching as a form of embodied information

Trans people present differently in different situations, such as doctors' appointments (Lehmann et al., 2021; Fraser, Brady, & Wilson, 2021)

Lived Experiences

Care of patients and understanding their experiences and conditions through information obtained from their bodies

Tacit knowledge (Benner & Tanner, 1987; Kontos & Naglie, 2009)

Embodying illness and using their bodies as sources of information (Wella & Weber, 2018; Ekerholt & Bergland, 2018; Kirkengen & Thornquist, 2012)

Serious Leisure and Everyday Information Practices

Body is central to information experience, impacts understanding

Use of sense in information gathering and use (Ocepek, 2018; Lloyd, 2014; Cox, Griffin, & Hartel, 2017)

Transgender Studies

Biometrics and airport security

Normative views of gender create a disconnect between societal expectations of the body and one's physical body (Currah & Mulqueen, 2011; Clarkson, 2019)

Similar model within healthcare