A PATIENT’S JOURNEY
Welcome to the Center for Gender Confirmation Surgery at Weiss Memorial Hospital. We invite you to take a few minutes and discover how our expert, compassionate staff works with people every day as they embark on new beginnings.

The Center for Gender Confirmation Surgery is led by medical director Loren S. Schechter, MD, FACS, and offers the full spectrum of gender confirming procedures consistent with the guidelines established by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH).

Located in a diverse neighborhood along Chicago’s northside lakefront, Weiss Memorial Hospital is one of only a handful of centers in the country that offers a comprehensive approach to gender confirmation surgery. Our top priority is to provide high-quality, compassionate care in a welcoming, patient-centered environment.
Every journey begins with a first step and your first step is to reach out to our program coordinator. Call our program coordinator at **(844) 727-6268**. They’ll be happy to answer any questions you have and, when you’re ready, they’ll send you an easy-to-complete patient intake packet.

Once we receive your completed packet, our program coordinator will help to schedule your in-person consultation with Dr. Schechter. Your consultation will include an examination and a discussion about procedures, expectations and recovery times.

If you chose to have surgery with the Center for Gender Confirmation at Weiss Memorial Hospital, our program coordinator is here to help you every step along the way, including:

- travel arrangements
- assisting with the insurance coverage process, as well as financial options
- confirming pre-surgical requirements
- assisting with coordinating medical information before and after surgery
- coordinating your care needs after surgery
- helping with referrals to support resources
When the day of your surgery finally arrives, it’s normal to be nervous – but you won’t be alone. You’ll be in a supportive and caring environment here at Weiss Memorial Hospital. Here’s what to expect on your surgery day:

You’ll first meet our Registration & Check-In Team. Following this, your Ambulatory Surgery Unit Nursing Team will help you get prepared for surgery. Next you’ll meet your Operating Room Nursing Team, Anesthesiologist and Dr. Schechter.

Depending on your procedure, the length of your surgery time may vary. When your surgery is over, you will wake up in the recovery room and meet your Post Anesthesia Care Team.

Your support system of loved ones plays a big part on the day of surgery. Our program coordinator will update your friends and family throughout the day and you will be reunited with them as soon as you have recovered from anesthesia.
With surgery now over, you’ll recover in a beautiful private room here at Weiss Memorial Hospital providing endless views of Lake Michigan. Depending on your procedure, your hospital stay may vary - and, again, you won’t be alone.

The Weiss Recovery Team will be there for you and includes:

- program coordinator
- resource nurse
- physician assistant
- therapist
- psychologist
- social worker or case worker
- post-surgery unit nursing team
- Dr. Schechter

We’ll even make an extra bed available for your loved ones to stay with you in your room during your stay.

In preparation for your discharge from the hospital, our program coordinator and social worker will work with you on a plan. If you live nearby, you may complete your recovery at home. If you are travelling, you may complete your recovery in a post-hospital facility or hotel.

Once your recovery is complete, you’ll be ready to head home...
We know this won’t be the end of your journey – it’s the beginning of an exciting new life for you!

Our goal is to help you achieve harmony in becoming on the outside who you are on the inside.
While we strive to ensure positive patient experiences, no patient experience is typical. The details of hospital care may vary with appropriate consideration to quality and safety needs of each individual patient. Physicians are independent members of the medical staff at Weiss Memorial Hospital and are neither employees nor agents of the hospital. As such, Weiss is not responsible for any actions that these physicians may take in their medical practice.