

GIST FAQs

Question	Answer	Resource Guide
What does Amida Care cover?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Amida Care covers medically necessary services and surgeries for the treatment of gender dysphoria. – Gender dysphoria is a medical diagnosis describing the distress a person can experience when their physical body does not align with their gender identity. 	Amida Care Clinical Guidelines
What are the coverage requirements?	Medicaid requires you have 2 letters of support and clinical documentation from your surgeon/provider.	<i>Support Letter Requirements for Gender Affirming Services</i>
Do I have to take hormones?	<p>If your gender goals include hormones, or they are not contraindicated, there are some hormone requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 12 months for bottom (genital) surgery. – 24 months for trans femme breast augmentation. 	Amida Care Clinical Guidelines
I am interested in electrolysis or laser hair removal.	<p>Face, Body, or Pre-op:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 2 letters of support are needed. – Each individual letter can request any combination of the three. 	<i>Electrolysis and Laser Hair Removal Guide</i>
I am interested in hair transplant services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hair growth treatments such as minoxidil, finasteride and spironolactone must be trialed first, unless contraindicated. 	Amida Care Clinical Guidelines

For additional information, please see **Amida Care Clinical Guidelines and Coverage Criteria for the Treatment of Gender Dysphoria** or contact the Gender Identity Support Team (GIST) at 646-757-7982; or email GIST@amidacareny.org

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I would like to see a gender-affirming surgeon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – You can self-refer to your surgeon of choice. – You need 2 letters of support. Bring letters to the surgical consult. 	<i>GIST Provider Listing</i>
I need post-surgical care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – You can discuss home care or short-term rehab services with your surgeon. – If the surgeon feels home care is required, they will submit a request for a nurse to come complete an assessment following your surgery. – You may also be eligible for short-term inpatient rehab after surgery. Talk to you surgeon about your care needs. 	
Can I get help with transportation for surgery?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Medicaid pays for medically necessary transportation. – This usually includes the trip home and sometimes to post op appointments. – Medical transportation is set up by the medical provider, not by Amida Care directly. 	<i>MAS Transportation Guide</i>
How can I get in touch with GIST?	<p>Gender Identity Support Team (GIST) Phone: (646) 757-7982 Email: GIST@amidacareny.org Fax: (646) 786-1802</p>	
Can I send my letters to Amida Care?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Support letters should be given to the provider's office. – Exception: support letters for <i>New York Electrolysis</i> can be emailed or faxed to GIST. – Always keep a copy of your letter for yourself. 	

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