

Gender Identity and Sexual Health: Perspective of Autistic People and Healthcare Transition Stakeholders

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Background

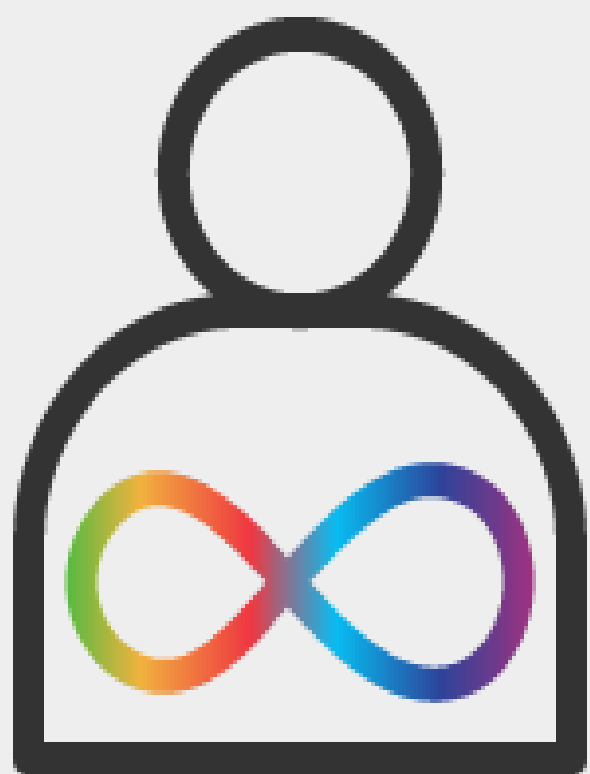
Autistic [1] youth and adults are 6 times more likely to identify as non-binary, gender fluid or transgender.¹ They make up 11% of the LGBTQI+ population.² The intersection of gender diversity and neurodiversity contributes to increased health inequities, adversity and trauma. During the time of transition to adulthood, support and education for sexual health is a critical area of need for autistic youth.

Purpose

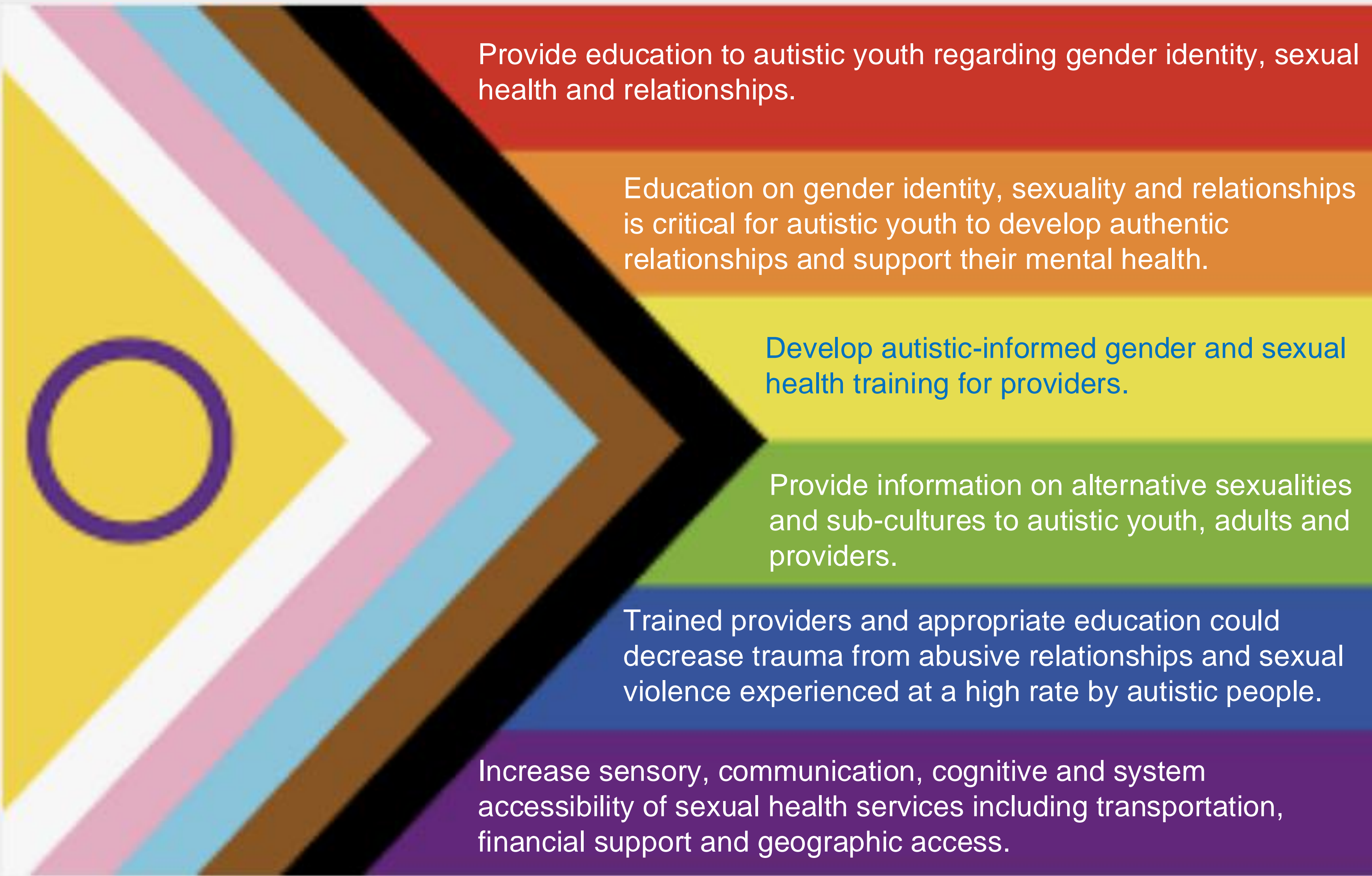
- To identify the research gaps to improve the healthcare transition for autistic youth and young adults.
- Specifically focus on gender identity and sexual health needs.

Methods

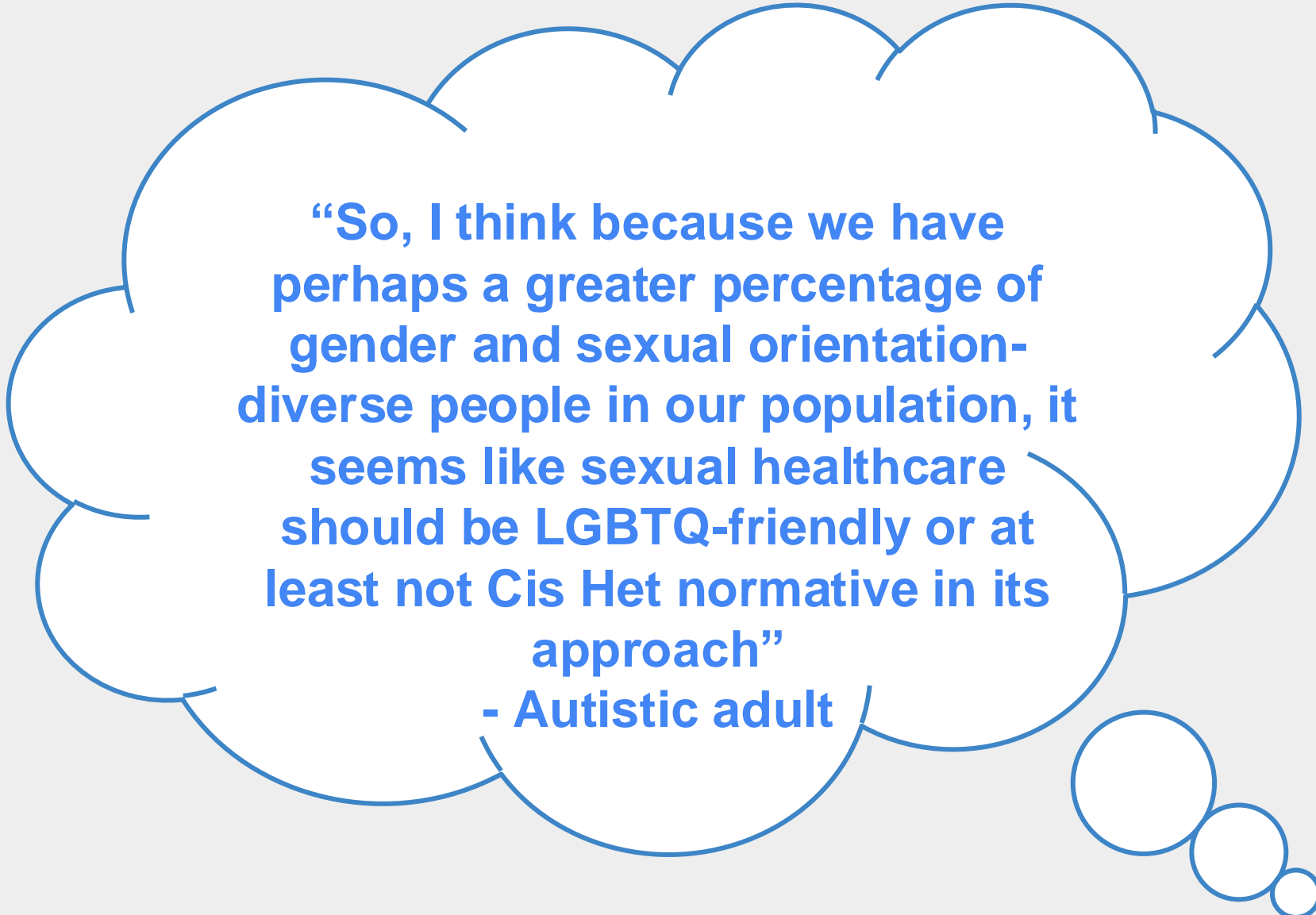
- Participatory action approach and qualitative method
- Literature review
- Focus group discussions with autistic and non-autistic stakeholders.
- Interviews with professionals
- Surveys



Autistic youth and adults have many practical suggestions to offer to improve gender identity and sexual health issues in healthcare.



Participants n=56	Autistic n=20	Non-Autistic n=36
Youth 16-25 years	9	0
Autistic adults 26 years and older	11	0
Parents/caregivers	5	12
Clinicians	4	7
Interviews of clinicians	0	17



Demographics of the Multi-Stakeholder Healthcare Transition Project Team	
Total team members N=16 (100%)	
Autistic	5 (31)
Family Member	5 (31)
Clinician/Researcher	11 (69)
Note: Because some team members have multiple identities, the total percentage does not equal 100%.	