

Overview of gender-affirming surgeries

Type of care	Description/purpose	Coverage	Surgical pathway & documentation
Breast construction	Implantation of prosthesis to enhance size and shape of breasts	Public but only under special circumstances ^a	Recommendation for Upper Surgery Referral to central waitlist
Chest construction or reduction	Removal of breast tissue and creation of a flatter and/or more sculpted chest	Public	Recommendation for Upper Surgery Referral to central waitlist
Hysterectomy +/- oophorectomy	Removal of uterus, ovaries, and fallopian tubes May eliminate the need for pap tests. Eliminates risk of ovarian, uterine, and cervical cancer. Prevents monthly bleeding	Public	Refer directly to gynecologist Some require recommendation for Gonadectomy
Orchiectomy	Removal of testes Eliminates need for testosterone blocker	Public	Refer directly to urologist Some require recommendation for Gonadectomy
Vaginoplasty	Creation of vagina and vulva (including mons, labia, clitoris, and urethral opening) and removal of penis, scrotum, and testes	Public	Recommendation for Genital Surgery For referral details, see transcarebc.ca/surgery
Vulvoplasty	Creation of vulva (including mons, labia, clitoris, and urethral opening) and removal of penis, scrotum, and testes	Public	Recommendation for Genital Surgery For referral details, see transcarebc.ca/surgery
Erectile tissue release	Creation of a penis by surgically releasing the erectile (clitoral) ligaments from the pubis	Public	Recommendation for Genital Surgery For referral details, see transcarebc.ca/surgery

^a If little to no breast growth and/or significant asymmetric growth, as determined by plastic surgeon after at least 18 months of estrogen-based therapy (unless contraindicated)"

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Metoidioplasty	Creation of a penis using erectile release +/- the following: urethral lengthening, vaginectomy, scrotoplasty & testicular implants	Public	Recommendation for Genital Surgery For referral details, see transcarebc.ca/surgery
Phalloplasty	Creation of a penis +/- the following: urethral lengthening, vaginectomy, scrotoplasty & testicular and/or penile implants	Public	Recommendation for Genital Surgery For referral details, see transcarebc.ca/surgery
Facial surgery^b	May include alterations to the facial bones, cheeks, forehead, nose, hairline and areas surrounding the eyes, ears, or lips	Private	Direct referral to plastic surgeon
Tracheal shave^b	Reduction and reshaping of thyroid cartilage	Private	Direct referral to plastic surgeon
Voice surgery^b	Alteration of vocal fold mass and/or tension to elevate pitch	Private	Direct referral to plastic surgeon
Liposuction or lipofilling^b	Removal or transfer of body fat to achieve desired body contour	Private	Direct referral to plastic surgeon
Pectoral augmentation^b	Implants placed beneath pectoral muscles to increase size and projection of muscles	Private	Direct referral to plastic surgeon

^b If needed, contact Trans Care BC's Health Navigation team for providers experienced in gender-affirming procedures: transcareteam@phsa.ca or 1-866-999-1514.