

**Tyler Tetreault, MD****AAOS Now**

Published 6/1/2020 | Tyler Tetreault, MD

Commentary

Diversity

Celebrating Diversity Encourages Future Orthopaedic Surgeons

Editor's note: The following letter is in response to a [series of articles](#) focused on the LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer [or questioning]) community that were recently published in AAOS Now.

I am a post-graduate year (PGY)-4 resident at the University of Colorado. I was happily surprised to recently come across the LGBTQ content in AAOS Now from winter 2019. I am transgender and began my transition just over a year ago, during my PGY-3 year. When I was deciding whether to come out, I was concerned that being an orthopaedic surgeon and being transgender were incompatible. I nearly quit residency because of my fear of being rejected; but with the encouragement of my family and incredible mentors in the field, I pushed ahead and decided to transition. I've had fantastic support from my program from the start, and I am so much happier!

I hope that this content in AAOS Now will reach diverse students considering careers in orthopaedic surgery. I had my own assumptions that the orthopaedic community would be unwelcoming to me, but this couldn't be further from the truth. I'm optimistic that

content celebrating diversity in our field will help change the orthopaedic surgery stereotype, attract excellent diverse physicians, and create a more welcoming community for everyone.

Thank you for your efforts on this important issue.

Tyler Tetreault, MD, is a fourth-year resident at the University of Colorado. He will be completing a fellowship in pediatric orthopaedics.

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