Notable Factors To Be Considered During Surgical Evaluation of Transgender Patients

As more people undergo gender reassignment surgery, the number of transgender patients aging and requiring orthopaedic surgery increases as well.

This paper provides an overview of the unique considerations for transgender patients during joint arthroplasty procedures.

### Preoperative Considerations
- Possibility of osteoporosis
- Increased clotting risk
- Urethral complications following genital surgery
- Cardiovascular risk
- Endocrine abnormalities following hormone therapy

### Intraoperative Considerations
- Pregnancy testing for female-to-male patients
- Anesthesia considerations that account for:
  - Structural changes
  - Metabolic differences
- Altered anatomy of blood vessels, nerves, and landmarks following phalloplasty
- Urology consultation for catheterization in patients who have undergone phalloplasty/vaginoplasty

### Postoperative Considerations
- Sensitization of floor staff to provide a safe and inclusive environment during an inpatient stay
- Discussing options to lower the risk of deep vein thrombosis with transgender women
- Long-term follow-ups to monitor implants, and additional follow-ups when starting hormone therapy

This paper summarizes some chief considerations for orthopaedic surgeons treating transgender individuals and emphasizes the importance of ensuring equal access to healthcare for this population.