

Title: Diversity and Inclusion of Authors of Publications in the Journal of Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology

Background

Diversity and inclusion in medical literature is not solely limited to patient population, but also encompasses author characteristics including, but not limited to gender, race/ethnicity, and socioeconomic background (1). This is an evolving area of interest which impacts the quality, application, and creativity of publications produced in the field of medicine (1). It is also a direct representation for the community at large and highlights the path of future generations. A 2022 publication reviewed all peer-reviewed articles published on behalf of the Canadian Critical Care Trials group between 1994 and 2020 (2). Their results showed that 40% of all lead authors and 34% of all senior authors were women. This is improved representation compared to the 2018 review from the lancet where 23% of their senior authors between 2014 and 2017 were female (1). Additionally, 15% of lead and 10% of senior authors in the Canadian Critical Care Trials group were a visible minority (2).

Interventional Pulmonology (IP) is a growing field worldwide and the American Association for Bronchology began a publication by the name of Journal of Bronchology in 1994 (3). This has now evolved into the Journal of Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology (JOBIP) with quarterly publications indexed in EMBASE/Excerpta Medica (4). JOBIP is dedicated to bronchoscopy and its closely related topics offering guidance into the art and science of IP through experts in the field. In our study, we would like to explore the diversity and inclusion within the publications of this peer-reviewed journal in the past years.

Objectives/goals

To understand the gender, racial, and professional diversity in academic research in the field of interventional pulmonology (IP) through analysis of authors of peer-reviewed publications in the Journal of Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology (JOBIP), between 2020-2023.

Inclusion Criteria

- All the manuscripts published in the JOBIP between 2020-2023 (3 years).
- The publication must be Pubmed Indexed.
- The study design must be one of the following.
 - Case Report
 - Case Series
 - Case Control/Cohort
 - Interventional Study
 - Clinical trials
 - Reviews including Systematic reviews and Meta-analysis
 - Surveys
 - Protocols
 - Economic Valuations

Exclusion Criteria

- Personal and Expert opinions published in the JOBIP will be excluded.

Study Design

All the publications in the JOBIP will be accessed between the year 2000-2023. We will obtain the following information about each publication.

1. Study Design
2. Month/Year of publication
3. Total Number of Authors
4. Lead (first) and Senior (last Author)

For all the authors in each publication, the following information will be collected:

1. Gender (Male, Female, Other)
2. Professional Role (Physician, Nurse, Research Coordinator, Statistician etc.)
3. Academic Level (Undergraduate, medical, graduate, post-graduate, early career faculty (Instructor/Assistant Professor), senior faculty (Associate Professor/Professor/Emeritus)
4. Academic Qualification (MD, PhD, Masters etc.)
5. IP Certification Status (Board Certification)
6. Non-IP physician's primary specialty
7. Country of Medical Schools Graduation (US vs International Medical Graduates)
8. Location of the Institutional Affiliations at the time of research (State, Country)
9. Race of authors (Caucasian vs Non-Caucasian)
10. Number of Publications for Lead and Senior Author only

Statistics

Descriptive analysis will be performed, and the data will be presented as n (%), mean, and standard deviation. We will analyze trends in the mean number of authors and the proportion of female total, female senior, female lead, trainee, early career, non-Caucasian, international graduates for each year from 2020-2023. We will also analyze other descriptive variables as appropriate.

Primary outcomes

1. To assess the proportion of female authors at various authorship levels in the manuscripts published in JOBIP between year 2020-2023.

Secondary outcomes

1. To assess the academic characteristics of lead and senior female authors in comparison to male lead and senior authors who were published in JOBIP within the last 3 years.
2. To assess the proportion of trainees, early-career faculty amongst the authors of the manuscripts published.

3. To assess the proportion of international medical graduates amongst the authors of the published manuscripts.
4. To understand the racial diversity amongst the authors of the published manuscripts.
5. To assess role of academic level and qualification in various authorship levels amongst the manuscripts published.
6. To understand the publication history of the lead and senior authors

Future applications

The analysis provided by our paper will give insight into the diversity of authors published in JOBIP within the last 3 years. Further input into common characteristics of these accomplished authors will provide guidance to current trainees and young graduates who are aiming for a flourishing academic career in interventional pulmonology and related research.

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References

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3. Feller-Kopman D. A Milestone for the JOBIP. *Journal of Bronchology & Interventional Pulmonology*. 2013 Jan 1;20(1):3.
4. <https://aabip.memberclicks.net/jobip>

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