



Diversity of Dermatology Trainees, 2014-2018

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ABSTRACT

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INTRODUCTION

Despite improvement over time, the current physician workforce does not represent the gender, racial, and ethnic diversity of the U.S. population.

In dermatology, diversity is particularly lacking, when compared to other specialties.

This study aims to examine trends in sex, racial, and ethnic diversity of trainees in the field of dermatology.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Graduate medical education supplements containing self-reported demographic data of medical residents are published annually in the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*.

These supplements were used to obtain self-reported demographic data of dermatology trainees from 2014-2018.

RESULTS

From 2014-2018, women have made up the majority of trainees in dermatology.

The most current data indicates that women comprise over 60% of dermatology residents.

When examining resident physicians in all specialty programs, women comprise 45.56% of trainees. Women have improved representation within the field of dermatology, by comparison.

Although women have consistently made up the majority of dermatology trainees from 2014-2018, they remain relatively underrepresented in the fellowships, including dermatopathology, micrographic surgery, and dermatologic oncology.

Over the past 5 years, women have made up slightly over 50% of trainees in dermatopathology fellowships.

Similarly, women have comprised almost 48% of trainees in micrographic surgery and dermatologic oncology.

DISCUSSION

Dermatology is one of few medical specialties in which women comprise the majority of trainees. Given the representation at the resident level, this will translate into an increasing number of attendings.

Further efforts and initiatives to improve diversity in dermatology residency and fellowship programs may be necessary, especially at the medical student level.

Promoting exposure to these fellowships at the resident level may help improve representation, proportionally.

DISCLOSURES

The authors have no disclosures.

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