SEX-BASED REPORTING OF COMMON MUSCULOSKELETAL CONDITIONS

KELLY STUMPFF, MD
MORGAN HADLEY, MD
KIM TEMPLETON, MD
DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS-KANSAS CITY

The Problem
- Sex-based differences not widely analyzed/reported in orthopedic literature

The Methods
- CORR, JBJS, AJSM, JOA reviewed comparing rotator cuff and knee osteoarthritis literature
WHY THESE CONDITIONS?

- Osteoarthritis of the knee - more common among women, with different risk factors and outcomes
- Rotator cuff - no clearly identified sex-based differences
RESULTS

- Only 31% of articles reported sex-specific analyses
- Articles involving conditions with known sex-based differences were more likely to analyze results based on sex
- No difference based on year of publication
Articles that reported results based on sex were more likely to have a female as the first or last author (p=0.007)

Articles with female last authors (only) were more likely to report results based on sex (p=0.0128)
CONCLUSIONS

- A minority of articles describing 2 common orthopaedic conditions report results based on sex
- Slighter higher rates of reporting occur for a condition with known sex/gender differences but still not consistent
- Inclusion of women as authors, especially in the important roles as first or last authors, increases the probability of sex/gender being analyzed
- This impacts the quality of care for all patients, as well as impacting future research and health professionals’ education