

BACKGROUND

- Over 1.4 million adults in the US identifying as transgender, up to half seeking surgical transition.
- Access to a qualified provider** is a primary reason for not receiving gender affirmation surgery.
- Plastic surgeons have stated feeling **under-prepared** in managing transgender surgical care after residency training.

METHODS

- Accredited **integrated** and **independent plastic surgery programs** collected from ACAPS public database.
- Details of **transgender training** were extracted from program websites, and phone calls or emails to program coordinators, then categorized by:
 - Geographic location*
 - Affiliation with a "Leader in LGBTQ Healthcare" center*
- Types of training in gender affirmation surgery was divided into (**Figure 1**):
 - Incidental**: transgender training performed in the hospital in which they are rotating
 - Structured**: intentional training – didactics, clinical, or dedicated rotation
 - Elective**: ability to rotate in a transgender elective

AIM: To provide a thorough cross-sectional review of the current state of gender transition education in US Plastic Surgery Residency Programs

Figure 1: Categories of Training

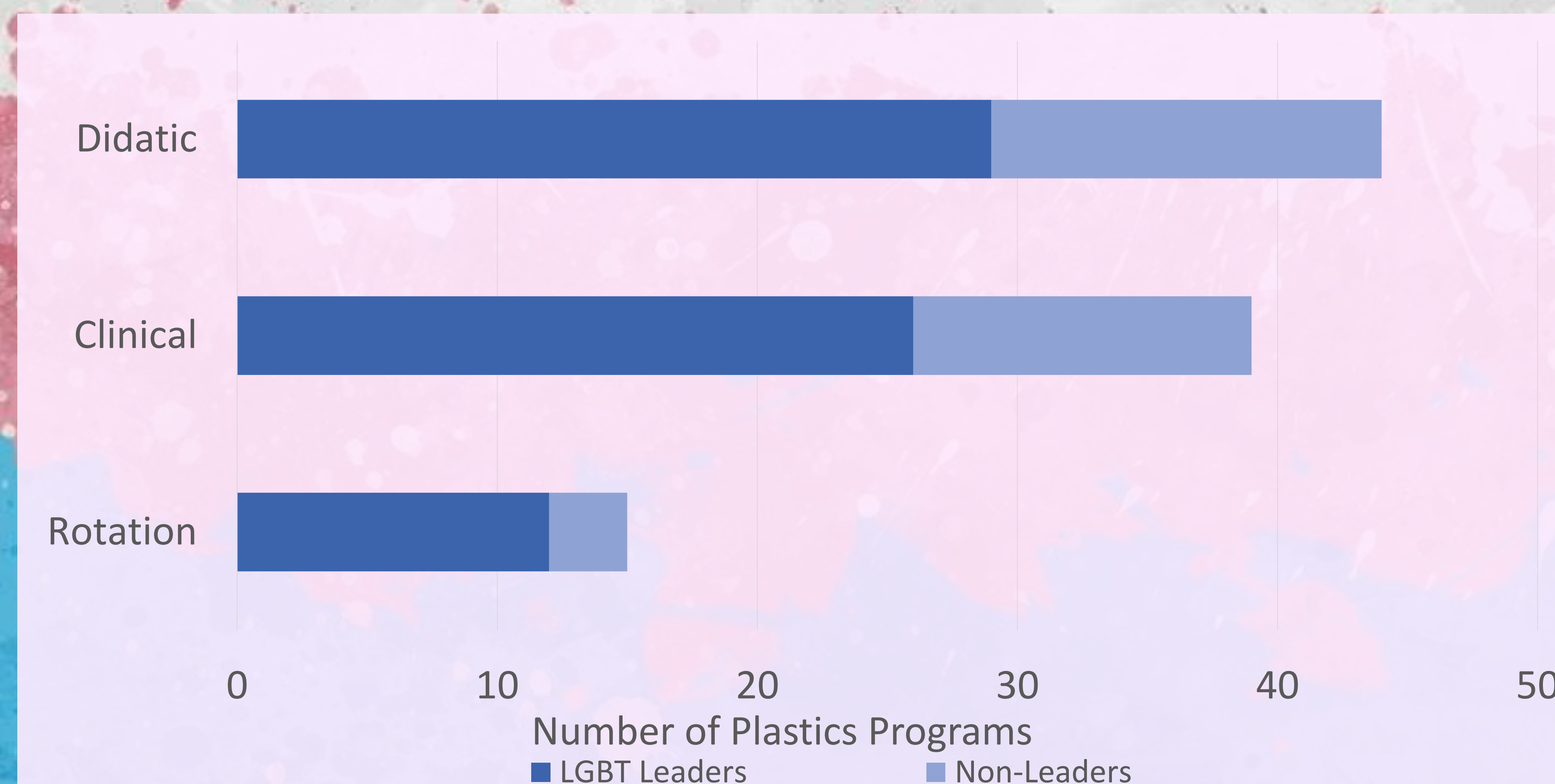
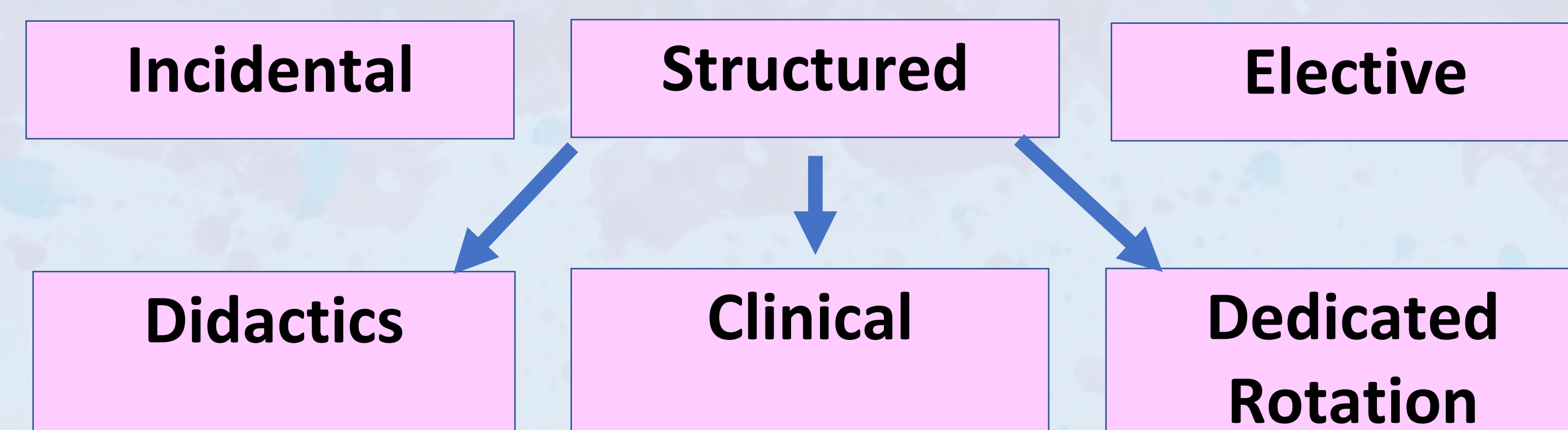


Figure 2: Structured Transgender Teaching in Plastics Residency Programs

RESULTS

- Of the 130 programs included:
 - 74% (n=96) provided incidental exposure to transgender surgery.
 - 28% (n=37) had structured training (**Figure 2**).
 - 54 programs (42%) had **no structured transgender training or elective options**.
- Programs affiliated with "Leaders in LGBTQ Healthcare" centers are **more likely** to provide incidental exposure ($p < 0.001$) and dedicated rotations ($p = 0.028$).
- The geographic division of a program was a **significant influential factor** for them to offer any incidental or structured training to their residents ($p = 0.020$, $p = 0.022$)

CONCLUSIONS

- There remains a **great degree of paucity and inequality** in transgender training within plastic surgery residencies in the United States.
- Institutional features such as **"Leader in LGBTQ Healthcare Equality" status** and **geographic division** can significantly influence the type of transgender training a resident may receive.