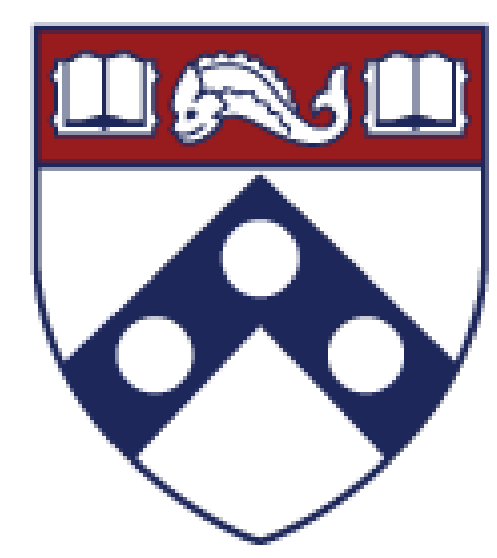




Assessing Aesthetic Training in Plastic Surgery Residency: *Are We Rising to the Challenge?*

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INTRODUCTION



▪ The number of trained Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (PRS) providers remains relatively fixed as the demand for aesthetic surgery rapidly rises in the United States and globally.¹⁻²



▪ This study investigates the preparedness of PRS residents to address this demand by evaluating the aesthetic surgery training structure of PRS residency programs.

METHODS

- All ACGME-accredited independent and integrated plastic surgery program websites were reviewed for the following:
 - Presence of a resident aesthetic surgery clinic (RASC)
 - Presence of ≥ 1 faculty aesthetic-focused surgeon (FAFS)
 - Number of graduates entering aesthetic surgery between 2019 to 2023

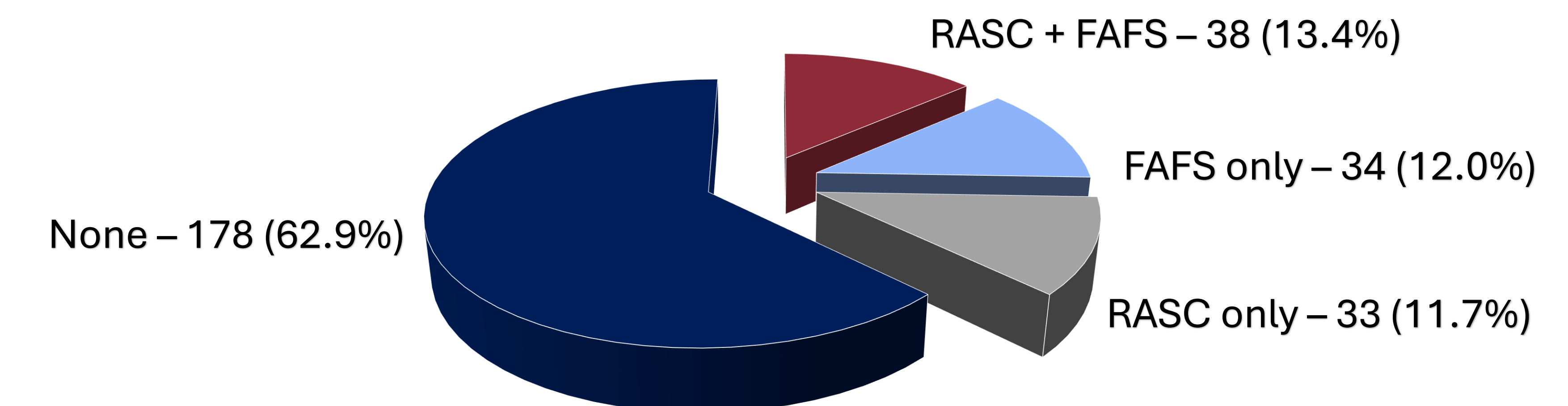
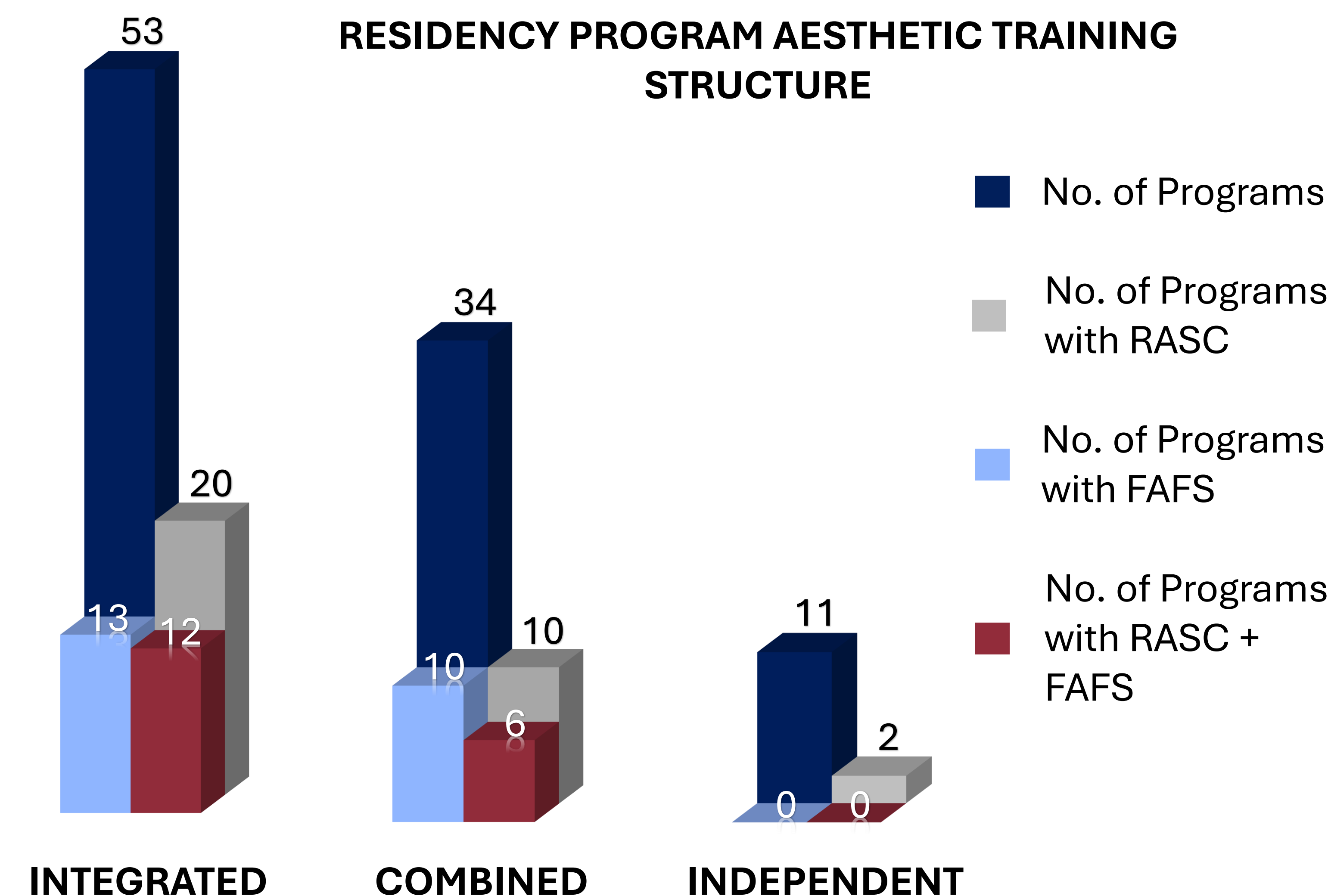
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RESULTS

- Thirty programs (30.6%) had RASC, and 25 (25.5%) had FAFS.
- Fifty-five programs listed a total of 600 graduates with 283 (47.1%) entering aesthetic surgery fellowship and/or private practice.
- No significant difference between graduates pursuing aesthetics based on the presence of RASC ($p=0.293$) or FAFS ($p=0.735$).
- Independent program graduates were more likely to pursue aesthetics than integrated/combined program graduates (0.75 vs 0.45, $p=0.003$).

RESIDENCY PROGRAM AESTHETIC TRAINING STRUCTURE



RESIDENCY AESTHETIC TRAINING STRUCTURE OF GRADUATES ENTERING AESTHETIC SURGERY

CONCLUSIONS

- This study reveals the large number of U.S. PRS graduates entering aesthetic surgery practice and the disproportionate amount of dedicated aesthetic surgery training resources within residency programs.
- Structured support in aesthetic training could help meet growing industry demands and increase PRS graduates' preparedness and competitiveness entering this competitive, rapidly growing field.

LIMITATIONS

- Determinations of RASC, FAFS, and graduates entering aesthetic surgery were limited by website accuracy.
- Structure of residency aesthetic surgery rotations and aesthetic fellowship training were not accounted for in this study.

References:

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