

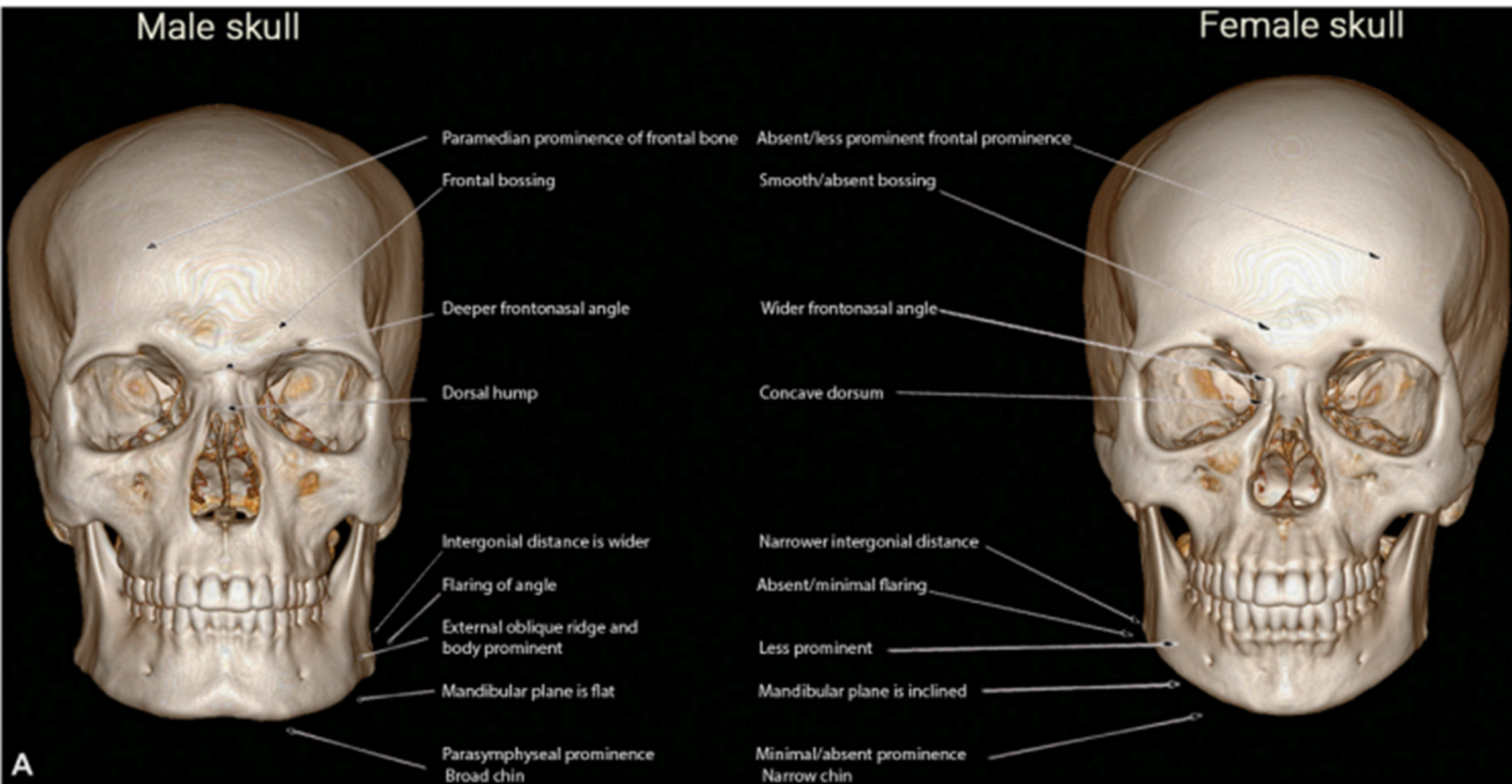
One-Stage Versus Two-Stage Facial Feminization Surgery: A Retrospective Cohort Study

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Background

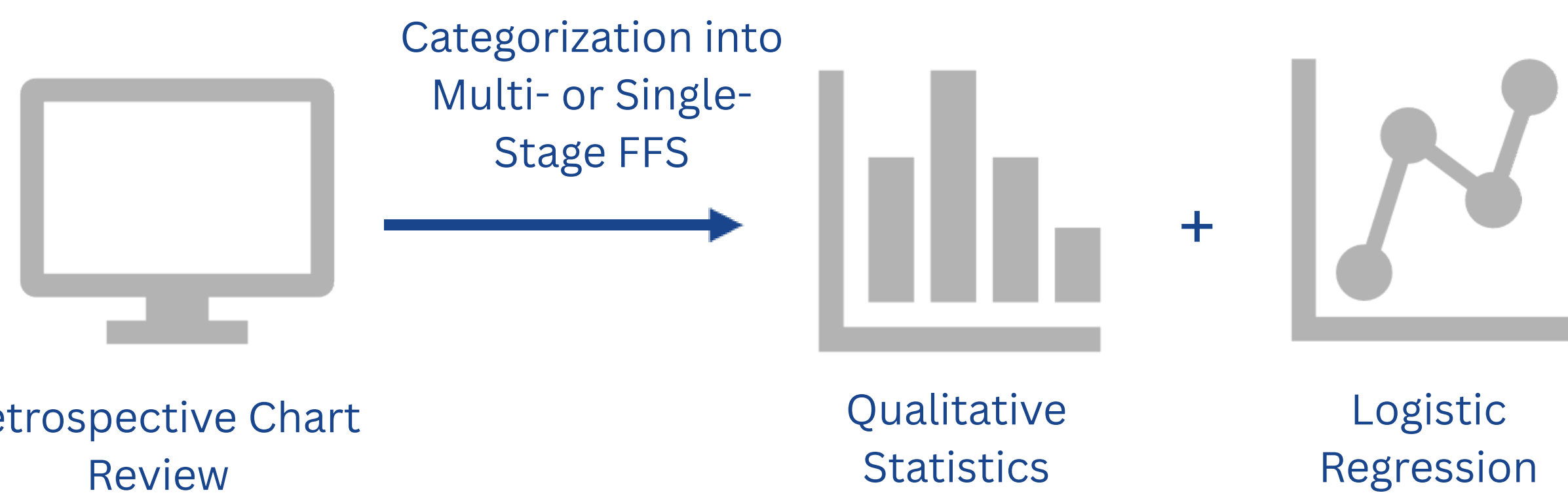
Facial feminization surgery (FFS) is a key component of gender-affirming care for transgender women.

- **Research Question:** Do one-stage and multi-stage GAFS confer significantly different complication rates?
- **Hypothesis:** One-stage GAFS has a significantly lower complication rate.



Methods

- Retrospective cohort study of transgender women who underwent GAFS between January 2021 and June 2024 at URM
- Categorization of patients as one-stage or multi-stage
- Univariate and multivariate analysis of associations between surgery staging and demographic, clinical, and postoperative variables



Results

Patient Demographics

- Total of 38 patients identified (33 single-stage, 5 multi-stage)
- Mean age 37.3 ± 12.2 (range: 20 - 66)
- Majority White (55.3%) followed by Black (26.3%)
- Just 2.6% of patients were uninsured

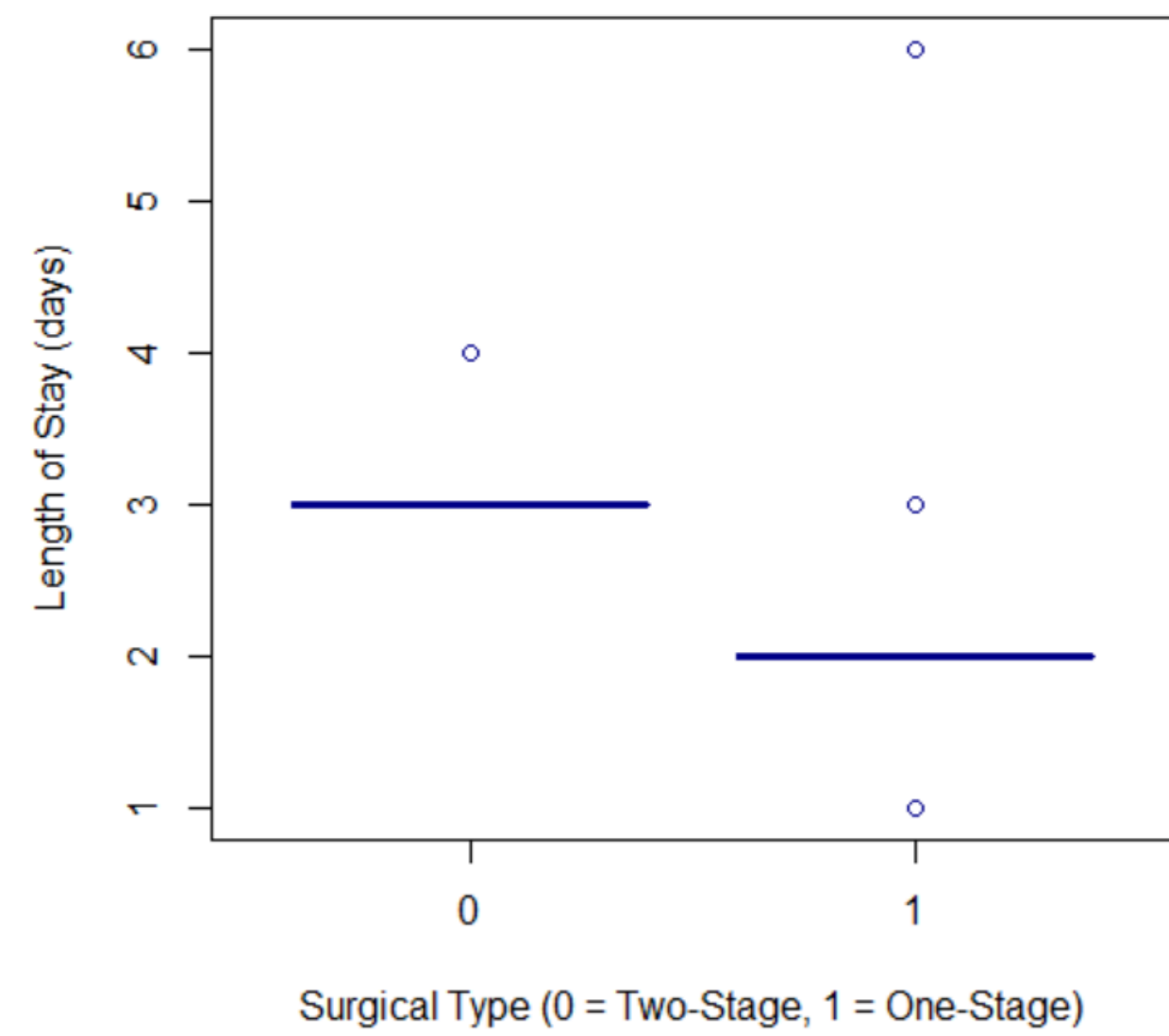
Postoperative Complications

	All Patients (n=38)	Single-Stage FFS (n=33)	Multi-stage FFS (n=5)	P-value
Overall Complication Rate	8 (21.1%)	5 (15.2%)	1 (20%)	1
Hardware Malfunction	1	1	1	
Infection	2	2	0	
Operative Injury	1	1	0	
Inadequate Pain Control	3	3	0	
Suboptimal Cosmesis	1	1	0	

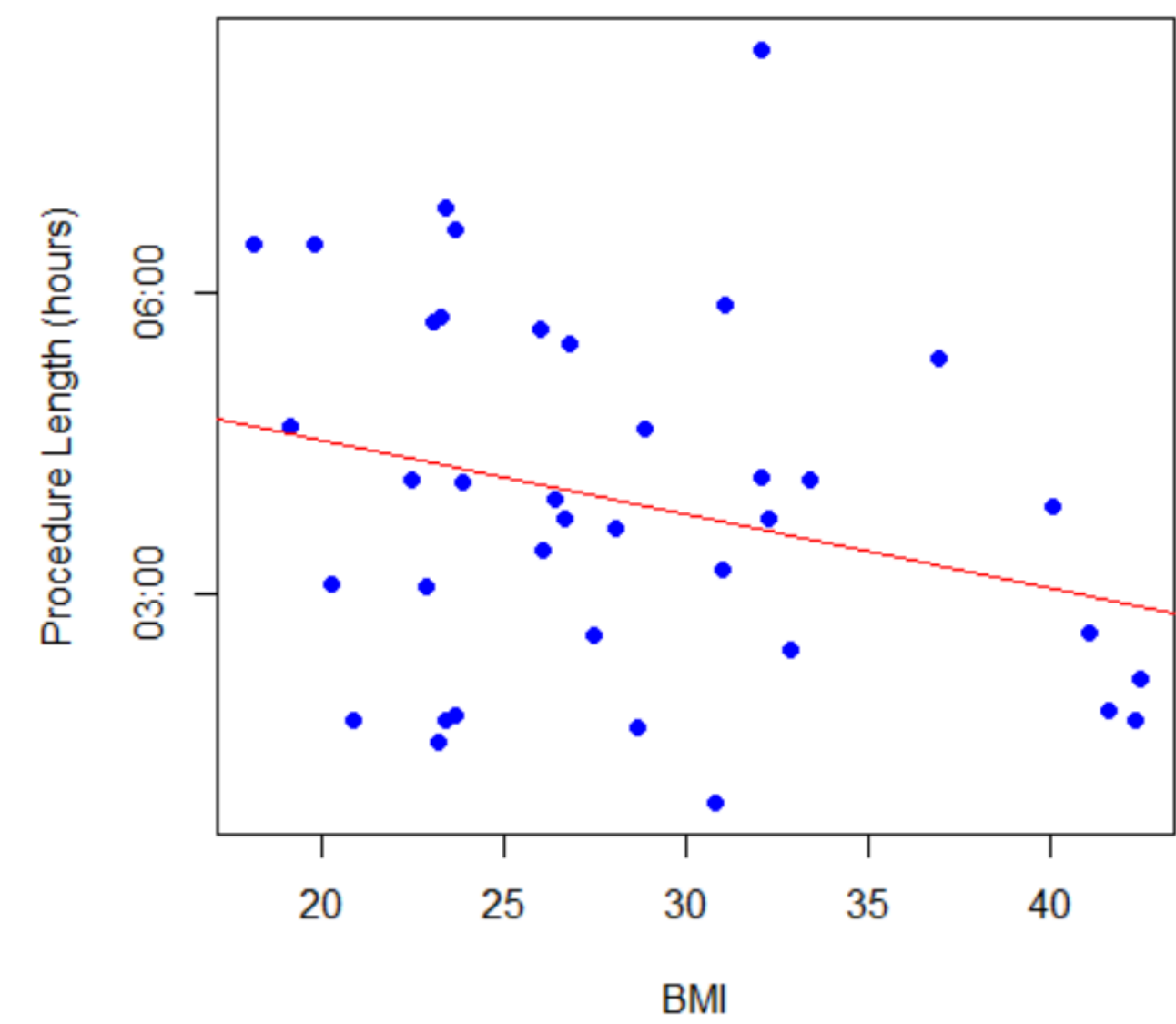
Secondary Outcomes

	All Patients (n=38)	Single-Stage FFS (n=33)	Multi-stage FFS (n=5)	P-value
Hospital Length of Stay (Total, days)	3.2 ± 1.1 (2 - 6)	3.0 ± 0.9 (2 - 5)	4.4 ± 1.3 (3 - 6)	0.01
Procedure Time (Total, hours)	3.6 ± 1.2 (1.4 - 5.9)	3.2 ± 0.8 (1.4 - 4.5)	5.4 ± 0.9 (4.3 - 5.9)	0.45

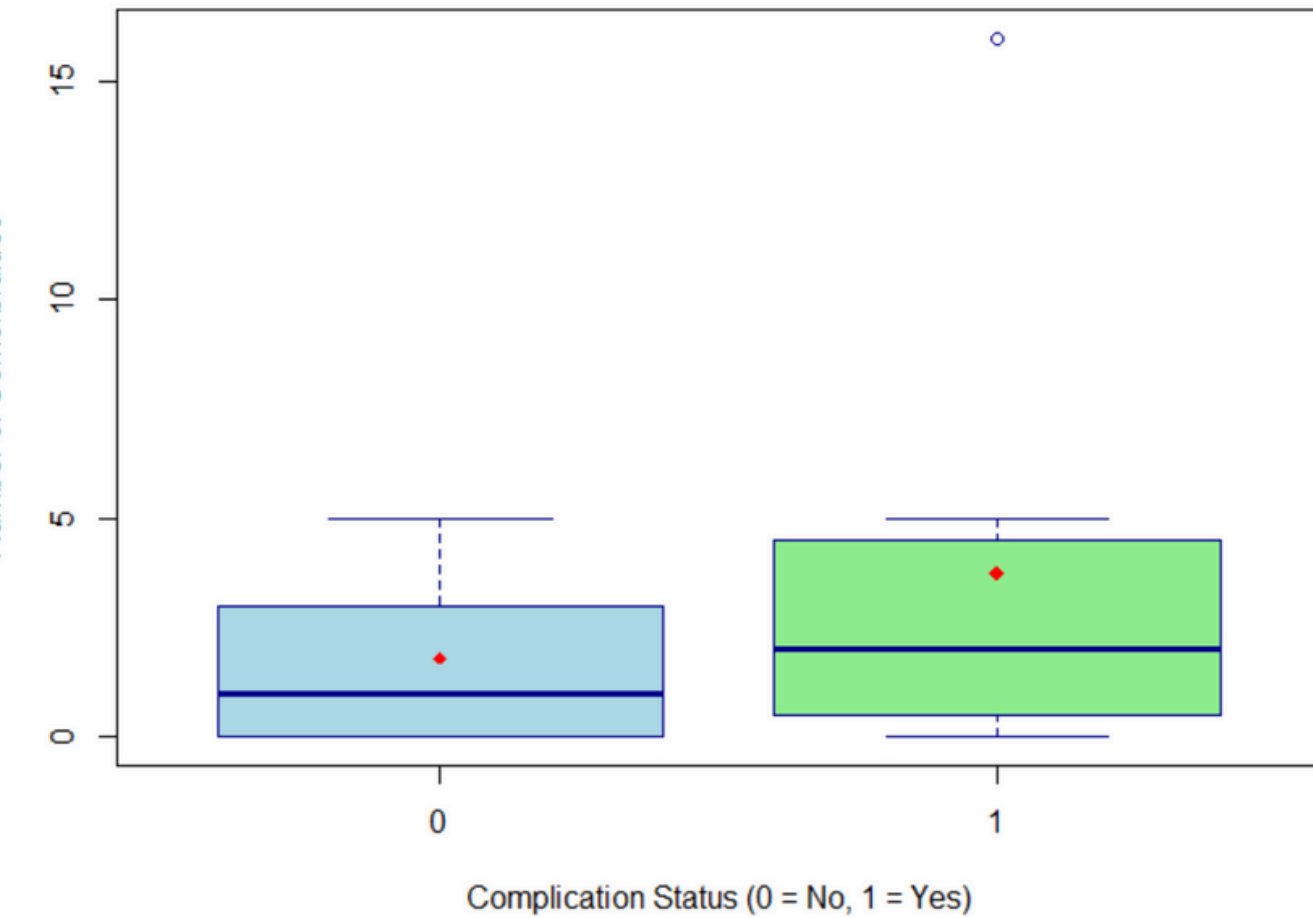
Length of Stay (LOS) by Surgical Type



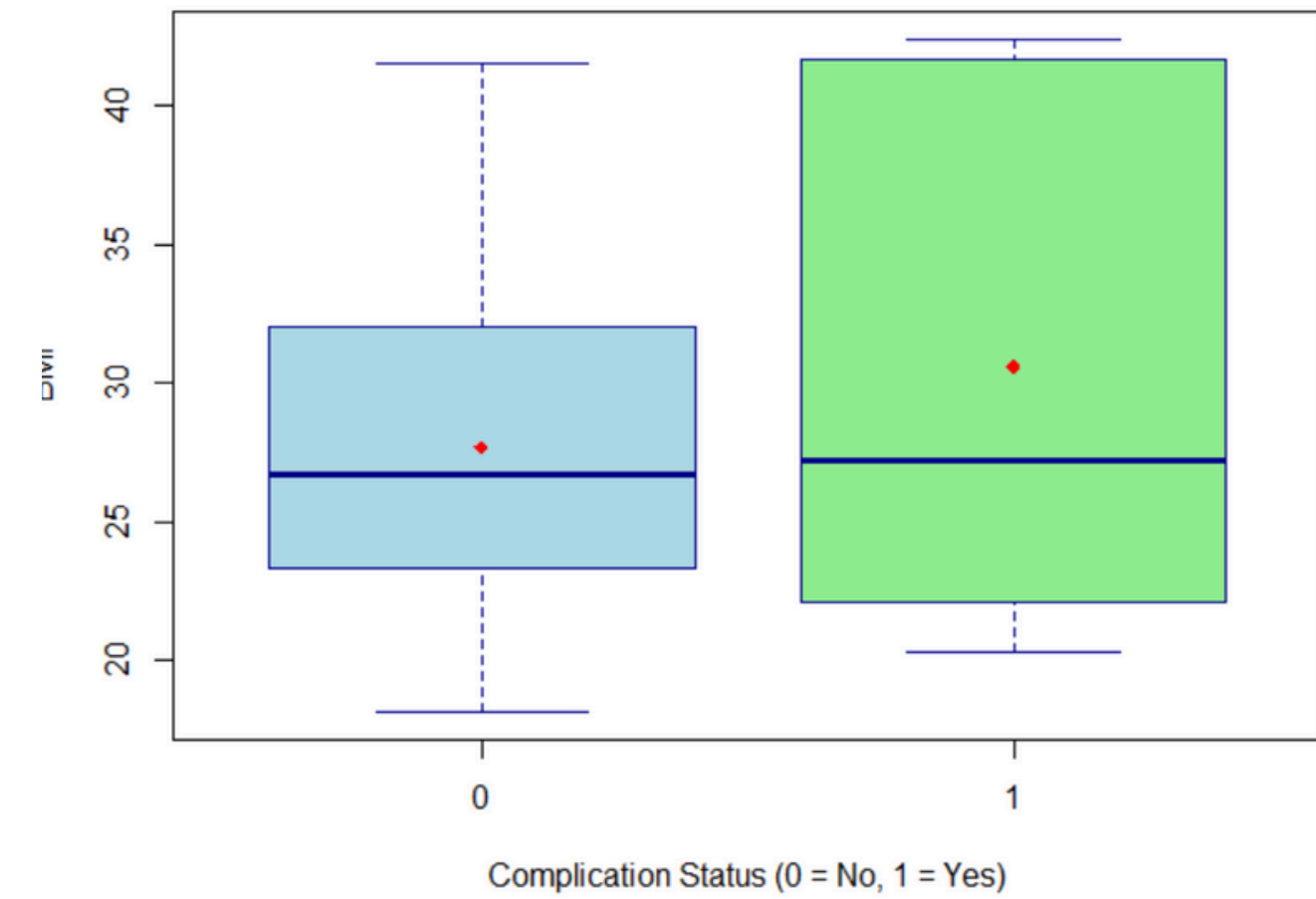
Procedure Length vs. BMI



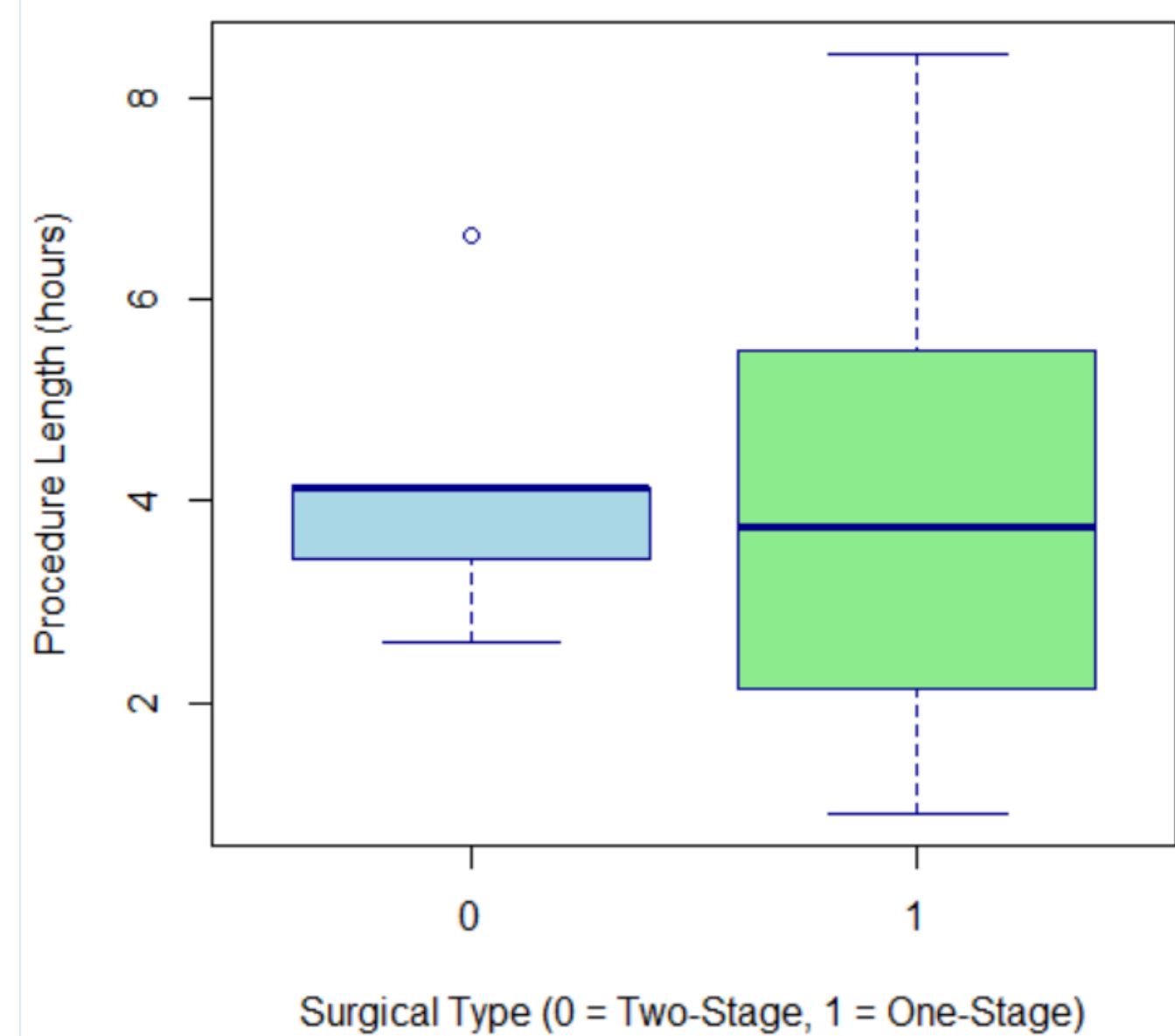
Number of Comorbidities by Complication Status



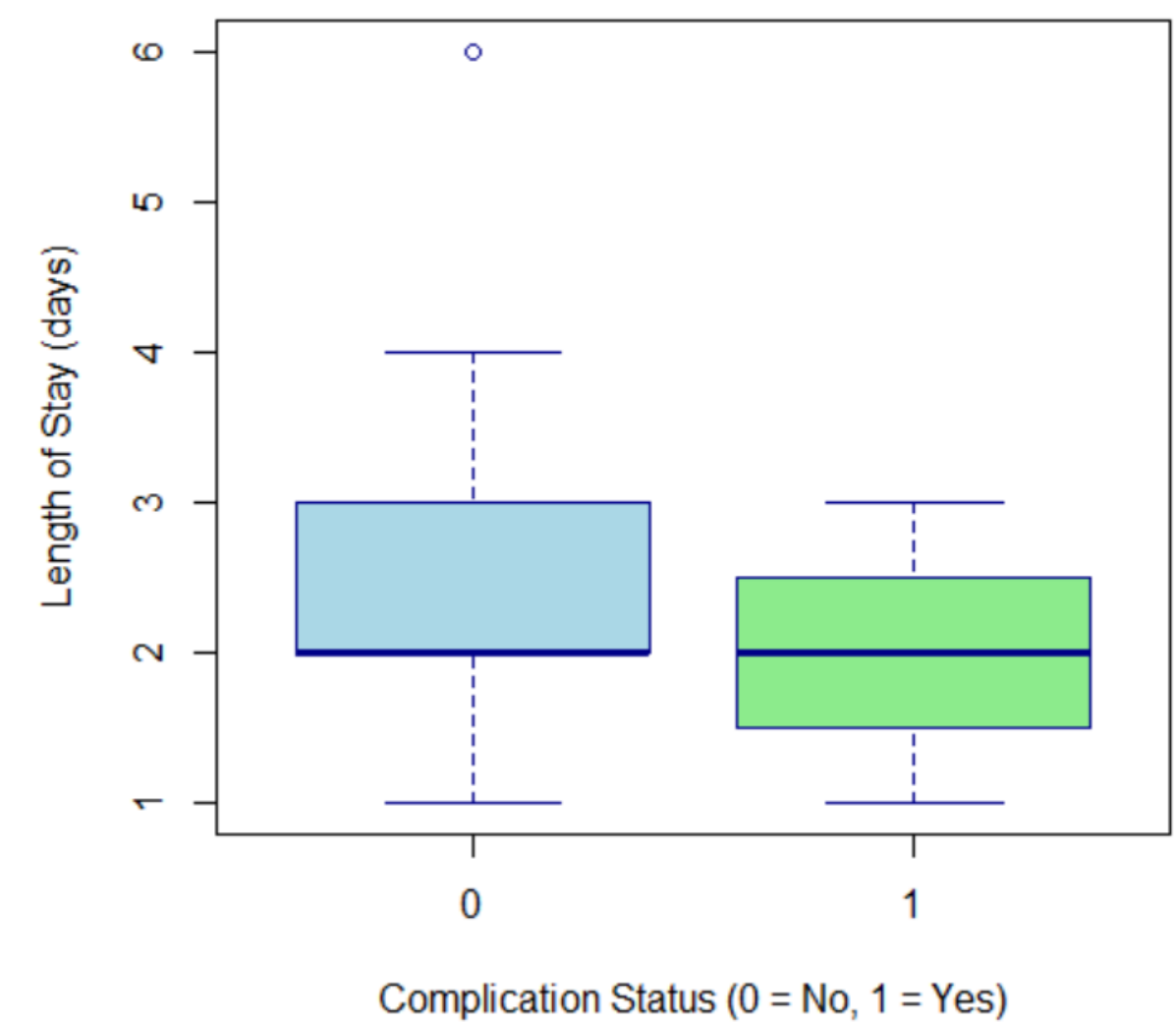
BMI by Complication Status



Procedure Length by Surgical Type



Length of Stay (LOS) by Complication Status



Summary of Findings

- No statistically significant difference in incidence of complications following one-stage versus multi-stage FFS
- Single-stage FFS demonstrates statistically significant reduction in total hospital length of stay

Discussion

- Findings suggest comparable safety of one-stage and multi-stage FFS
- One-stage and multi-stage FFS provides the benefit of a single recovery period without extending total hospital length of stay
- This may translate to reduced costs to the system overall
- Less time in hospital
- Less time away from work
- A one-stage surgery possibly reduces burden of dysphoria as patients may complete their transition more rapidly

Limitations

- Retrospective study design
- Single institution à possibly limited generalizability
- As the experience of the surgeon (C.M.) increased, the practice shifted toward one-stage approach, thus surgeon experience may have impacted the results herein

Future Investigation

- PROactive grant
- Educational workshops
- Implementation of Gender-Q and PHQ-9 in clinic