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Women are under-represented on the editorial boards of the top 20 ophthalmology journals

Gender composition of ophthalmology journals' editorial boards

Why is this important? Women make up 50% of UK ophthalmology trainees, but only 31% of consultants. There is gender disparity in rates of academic publication in ophthalmology (32% of all authors were female between 2015-19, Kalavar et al *Ophthalmology* 2020). The presence of women in leadership roles is important to ophthalmology and visual science in order to provide visible role models and because diverse perspectives enhance the quality of research and scientific conversation. We investigated the gender composition of the editorial boards of the top 20 ophthalmology journals.

Methods

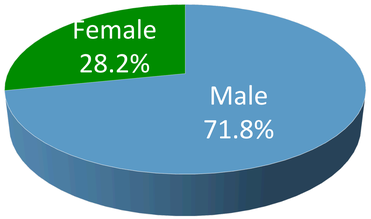
N=20
Journals ranked by impact factor

Exclusion
One ranked journal was a monograph series, 21st ranked journal included instead

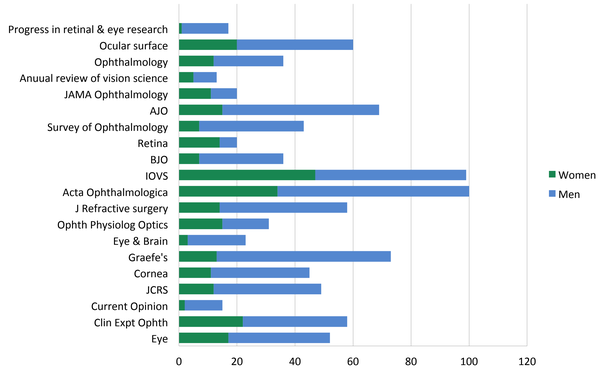
Editorial board
Editor in chief and editorial board members identified

Gender composition
Gender of board members identified via journal website and cross checked as needed with personal or institutional websites.

Editorial board: Overall Composition

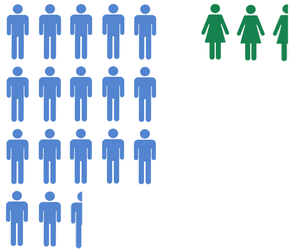


Editorial Board: Composition By Journal



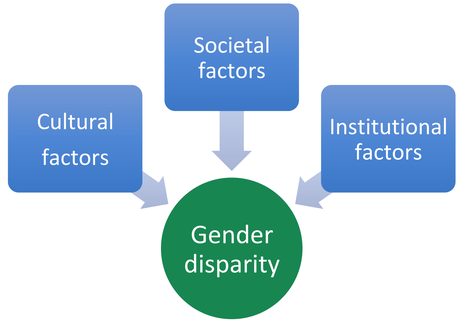
Women on editorial boards ranged from 6 to 55%. Journals focusing on invited reviews had lower female representation than those publishing primarily peer-reviewed articles.

Editors-in-Chief



17 male, 2 female
1 journal had position shared by male & female

Potential sources of female under-representation on boards



By being aware of potential biases and committing to increasing diversity on editorial boards, journals can provide role models for young academic ophthalmologists, encouraging the development of the best talent in the field.

Women in Vision UK

Join the conversation at www.womeninvision.co.uk
Twitter @womeninvisionuk Email WomenInVisionUK@gmail.com

Women Ophthalmologists Worldwide