

# Female authorship over time as represented by the Gerard W. Ostheimer Lecture Series



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## Why do we care?

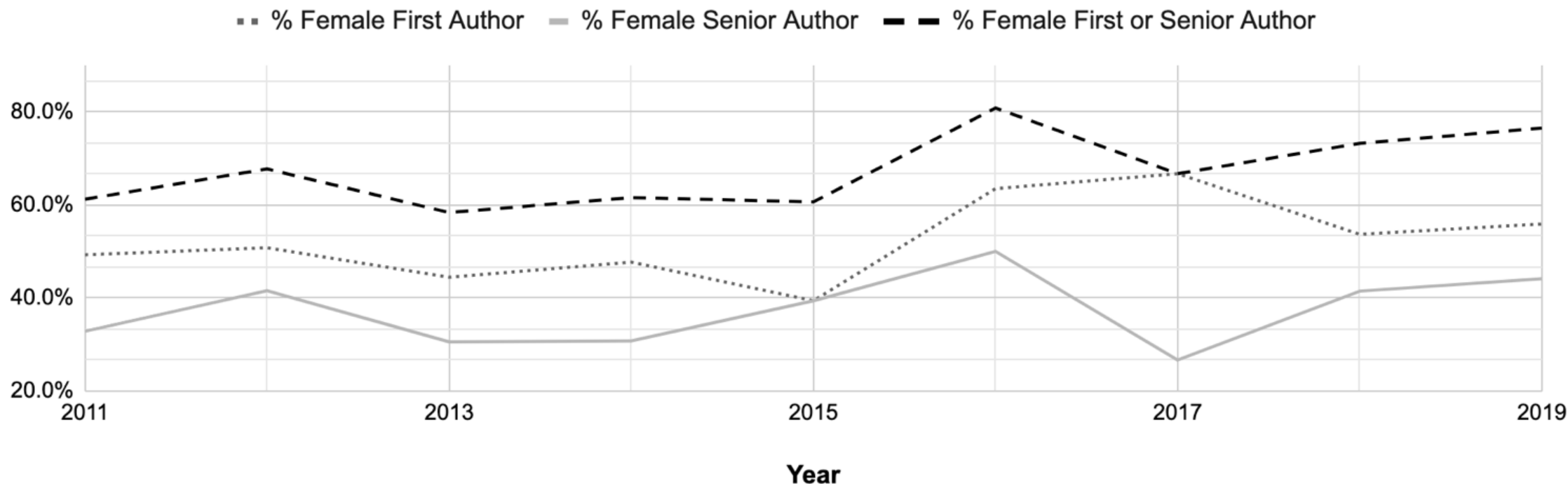
- Gender differences in authorship have been shown across medical specialties
- Gender representation in literature has important implications for the DEI efforts in medical knowledge generation
- Our objective was to evaluate the proportion of female authorship and its evolution over time in publications relevant to the practice of OB anesthesia

## Methods

- Collated citations from the published Ostheimer Lecture Review Articles from 2011 to 2019
  - *Best available proxy for actual lecture syllabus, also reiterates articles deemed most important*
- Cross referenced names through web search of public profiles
- Recorded binary gender of first and last author for each citation

# Results

**Figure 1: Percentage Female Authorship Over Time**



First author female = 51.5%

Last author female = 40.0%

First and last author female = 22.3%

The odds of a female first or senior author increased over the study period (OR 1.09,  $p=0.035$ ).

# Discussion

## Conclusions

- Female first authorship has been well represented in the articles selected for the annual Ostheimer Lecture review article
- First or last female authorship has been increasing over the observed period from 2011 to 2019
- Female last authorship remains underrepresented in the study period
- Ongoing mentorship is needed for females to continue to advance into the senior author role

## Limitations

- Assumed binary gender based on social norms of first name identity, photos
- Not reflective of gender fluidity



- Highlights importance of documenting pronouns, as well as other collecting data on other DEI variables to better inform research on disparities