



Gender Disparities Among Burn Surgery Leadership

Konanur A, Egro FM, Kettering CE, Smith BT, Corcos AC, Stofman GM, Ziembicki JA

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Mercy



Introduction

Historically, gender disparities have existed and been well-documented in general and plastic surgery. Women in the field have less professional satisfaction, higher attrition rates, and pregnancy discrimination. Whether the pattern of gender bias persists in burn surgery leadership remains unknown. Thus, it would be beneficial to understand what disparities exist in burn surgery leadership and whether they align with other surgical specialties in order to address pertinent issues.

Aims

The aim of this study is to determine the gender disparities among burn surgery leadership.

Methods

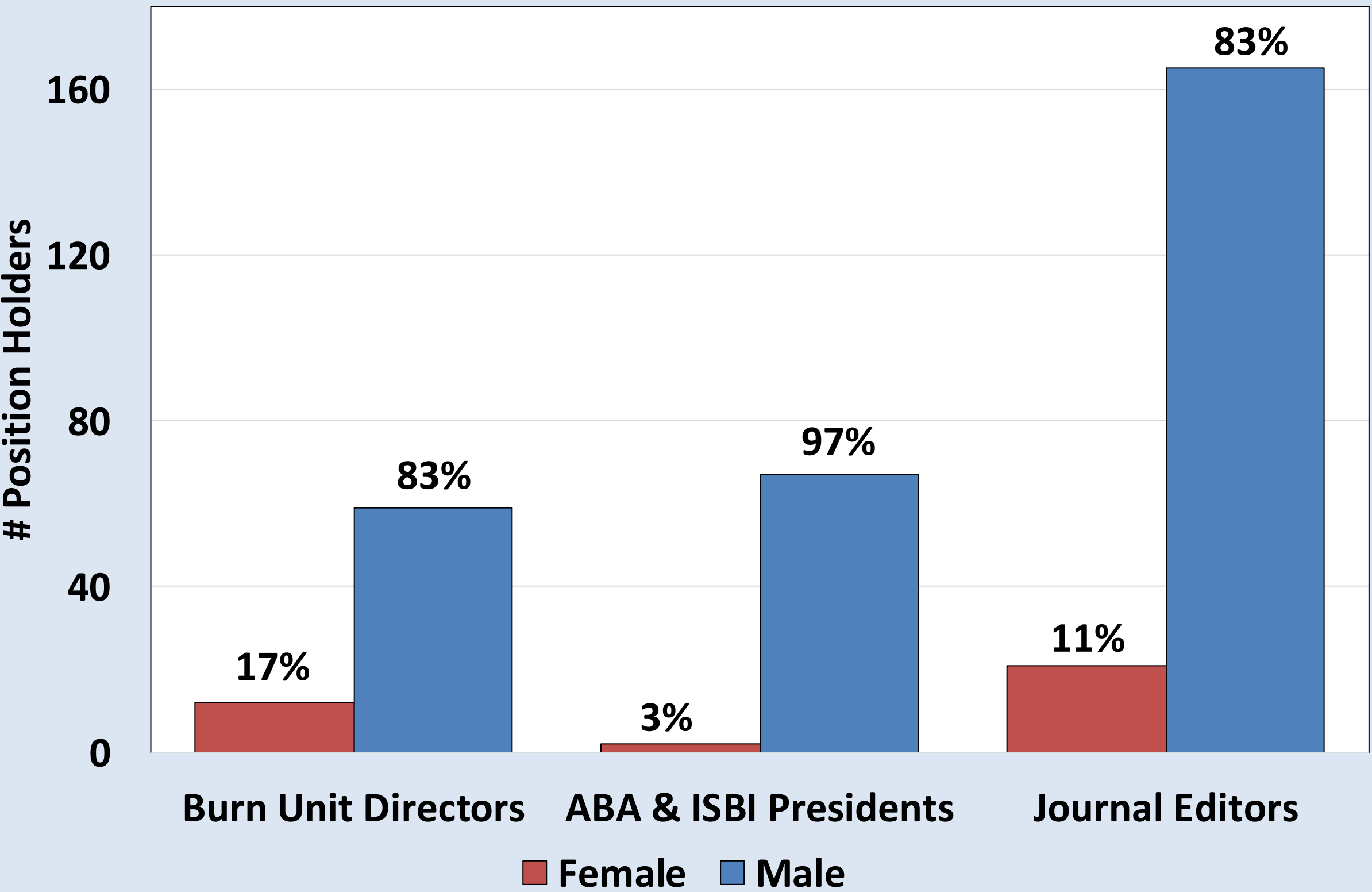
A retrospective study of gender representation among burn surgery leadership was performed. Burn surgeons included were directors of American Burn Association (ABA)-verified burn centers (n=71), past presidents of the ABA and International Society for Burn Injuries (ISBI) (n=69), and editors for the Journal of Burn Care & Research, Burns, Burns & Trauma, Annals of Burns & Fire Disasters, and the International Journal of Burns and Trauma (n=203). Faculty profiles, Doximity, and other public websites were searched to obtain data including: age, gender, race, training, academic rank, and H-index.

Conclusions

Gender disparities exist in burn surgery leadership and are, in fact, more striking than other surgical specialties. Female surgeons have a similar age, residency training, and other background factors. Yet, female burn surgeons have graduated more recently and are predominantly at the junior faculty level, which could lead to a shift in gender representation in the future.

Results

Gender Representation Among Burn Surgery Leadership



Characteristics of Burn Unit Directors

Characteristic	Female	Mean
Residency Graduation Year	2002.5 (±7.4)	1995.9 (±86)
Total # of Advanced Degrees	0 (±0)	0.1 (±0.3)
Total # of Fellowships (per person)	1.2 (±0.8)	0.9 (±0.6)
Fellowship Graduation Year	2006.0 (±6.1)	1999.4 (±8.8)
Proportion with Any Fellowship	0.8 (±0.4)	0.8 (±0.4)
Age	51.6 (±9.1)	54.5 (±8.3)
H-Index	8.6 (±6.0)	17.3 (±16.7)

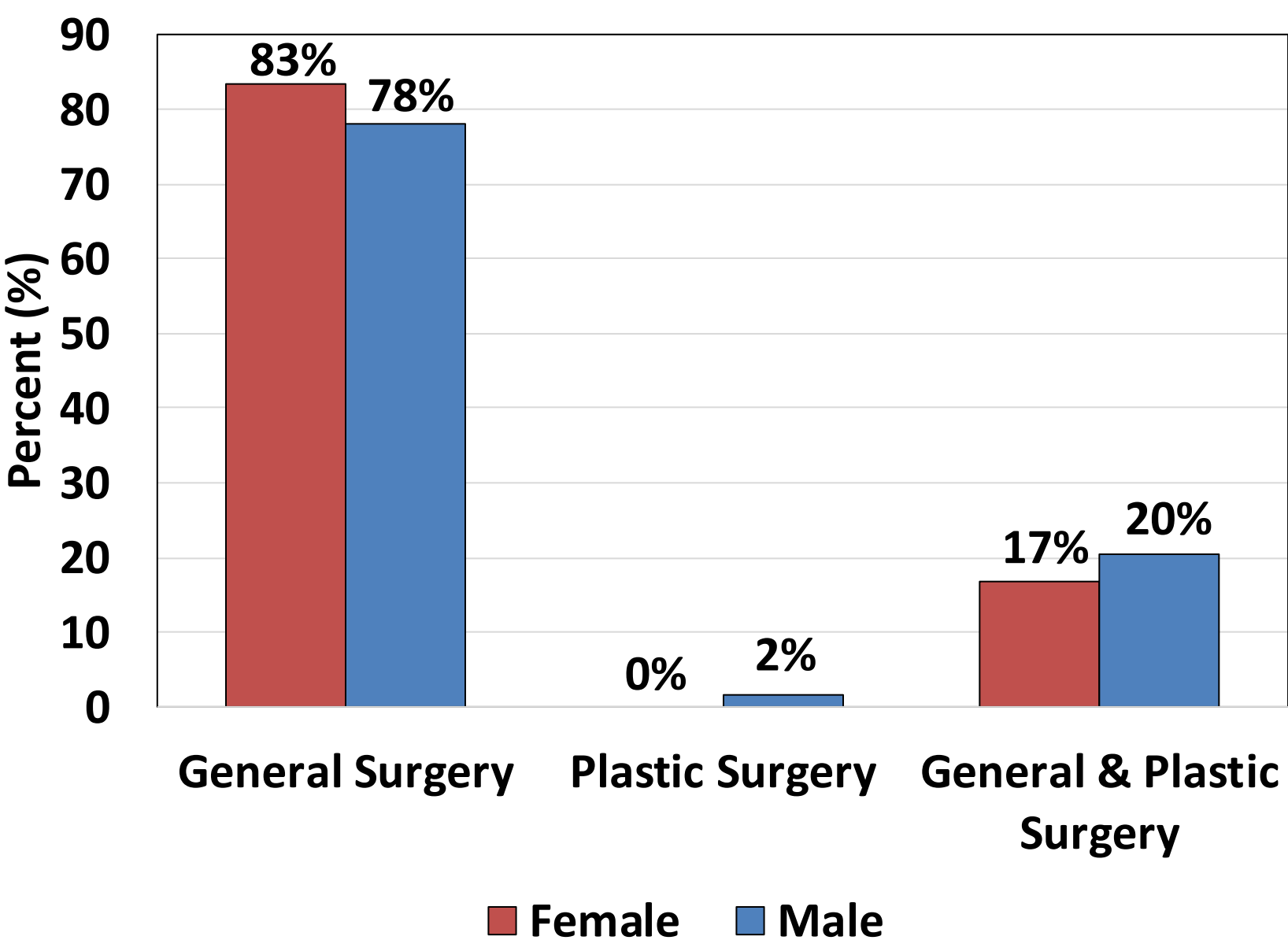
Significant Differences (Females vs. Males):

- ✓ Number of Advanced Degrees (0 vs. 0.1, p = 0.004)
- ✓ Fellowship Graduation Year (2006.0 vs. 1999.4, p = 0.01)
- ✓ H-index (8.6 vs. 17.3, p = 0.03)

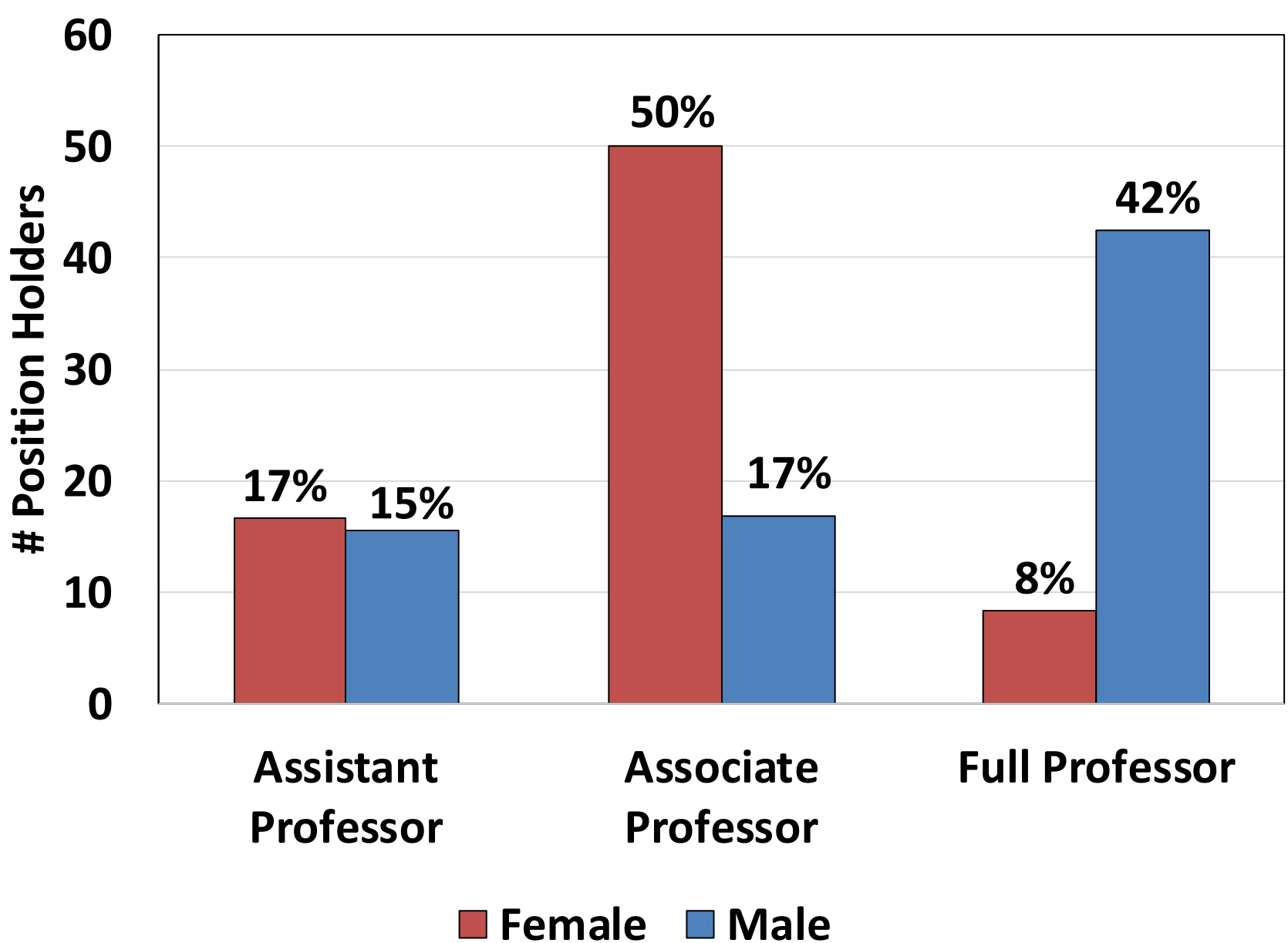
No Significant Differences (Females vs. Males):

- X Residency Graduation Year (2002.5 vs. 1995.9, p = 0.05)
- X Number of Fellowships (1.2 vs. 0.9, p = 0.3)
- X Proportion with Fellowship (0.8 vs. 0.8, p = 0.5)
- X Age (51.6 vs. 54.5, p = 0.3)

Burn Unit Directors' Training Background



Academic Level of Burn Unit Directors



Odds of Women in Position (vs. Men)

