Data Driven Strategies for an Education Program to Improve Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Radiology

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Background

- Diagnostic radiology is the 9th most popular specialty for residency applicants¹
 - 17th for female representation
 - 20th for underrepresented minorities (URM) representation²
- Why?
 - Lack of preclinical exposure -> misconceptions and less interest in radiology³
 - Women: lack role models⁴, mentorship⁵ and perceive radiology as too competitive⁶
 - URM: lack of understanding of the field⁷

Purpose and Objectives

Apply a comprehensive framework to implement a longitudinal education and outreach program in radiology.

Increase knowledge, interest, and awareness of radiology as a specialty.

Collect quantitative and qualitative data for baseline evaluation, continued monitoring and improvement.

Increase the diversity of students applying to radiology residency.

Structured Framework for Radiology Education Programs: 5 C's⁸

Curriculum

- Approach to interpreting common imaging studies
- Basic understanding of different imaging modalities
- Anatomy
- Radiation risk and exposure

Coaching

- Mentorship
- Observerships
- Research
- CaRMS application and interview support

Commitment

Collaborating

- Understanding radiologist's role on interdisciplinary teams
 Indications for imaging studies
- Knowledge of when to consult a radiologist

Career

- Day in the life of a radiologist
- Lifestyle and salary
- Job availability, outsourcing and teleradiology
- Occupational hazards
- Residency difficulty and fellowships
- Residency applications and competitiveness

Methods

24 events held since 2022

POST-EVENT SURVEY

Demographics

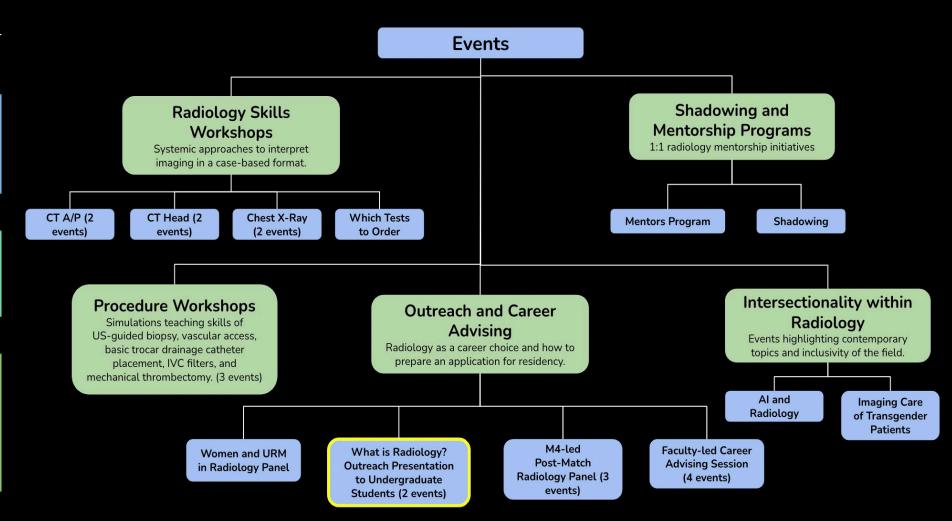
• Subgroups: Male/Female, medical/undergraduate, school years, URM/nonURM

Previous Exposure

- Overall
- Subgroups

Feedback of Program

- Perceptions/misconceptions of radiology
- Interest in radiology
- Effectiveness of education program

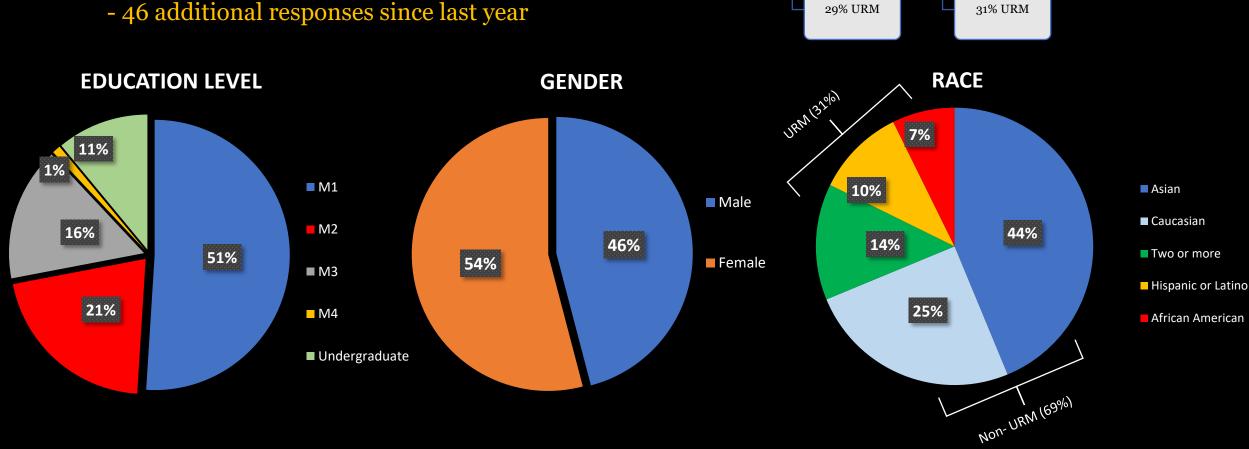


DATA ANALYSIS: TWO-TAILED T-TEST COMPARISON

Demographics

247 attendees with a 49% survey completion rate (122 responses)

- 46 additional responses since last year



2022 &

2023

11% Undergraduate

54% Female

2022

5% Undergraduate

50% Female

Results

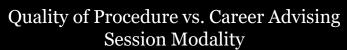
Session Modality

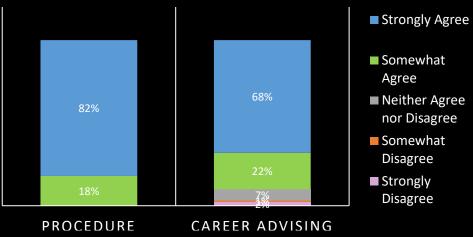
- Misconceptions: Procedure workshops significantly* less effective than other modalities for addressing misconceptions
- Quality: Procedure workshops rated significantly* highest quality modality

Women and URM

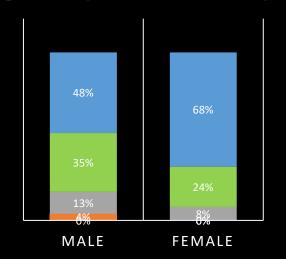
- **Trend:** greater positive impact on increasing interest in radiology and promoting the work-life balance in women than men
- Trend: greater positive impact on increasing interest in radiology in URM than non-URM

NON-URM

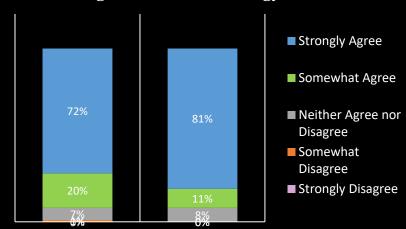




Male vs. Female: Effectiveness in promoting work-life of Radiology



Non-URM vs. URM: Effectiveness in increasing interest in Radiology



URM

Results: Perceptions and Attitudes

2022

Present

 Undergrad sessions significantly* peaked radiology interest more than graduate sessions

- Undergraduates
 - significantly* increased interest, promoted work-life balance, and addressed misconceptions in undergraduates compared to medical students
- M1/M2 (Preclinical) vs M3/M4 (Clinical)
 - No statistical difference
 - **Trend:** greater positive impact on addressing misconceptions in clinical medical students compared to preclinical medical students

M1/M2 vs M3/M4: Effectiveness in addressing misconceptions in Radiology

Work Life

	Med Student	Undergrad
Mean	4.14	4.85
Variance	0.90	0.13
N	151	33
P (two-tail) vs. Med student	4.90E-11	

Misconceptions

	Med Student	Undergrad
Mean	4.27	5
Variance	0.76	0.00
N	51	11
P (two-tail) vs. Med student	2.80E-07	



Discussion

• Our program: equally effective in increasing the interest of all students, regardless of race or gender.

• 2022 --> Present

- While well-received, interactive procedure workshops were less effective than other modalities in addressing misconceptions.
- Undergraduate outreach events significantly increased students' interest, promoted work-life balance, and addressed misconceptions compared to medical student outreach events.
- Undergraduate outreach = key pipeline



Conclusion & Next Steps

- Intersectionality in radiology matters
 - *Visible* inclusivity can help retain interested students⁹
 - Our event on Imaging for Transgender patients was equally well-received and effective at promoting interest in radiology as skills and interactive procedure workshops.
 - Women and URM in Radiology panel -> increased interest in radiology for both respective groups
 - Event this semester = AI and Radiology
- Future Directions
 - Exploring intersectionality in radiology events
 - Targeted outreach to undergraduate students
 - Virtual events
 - More accessible, especially to those at distant campuses

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