

Women's Participation and Representation at the ACG Meetings: An In-Depth Analysis of Trends

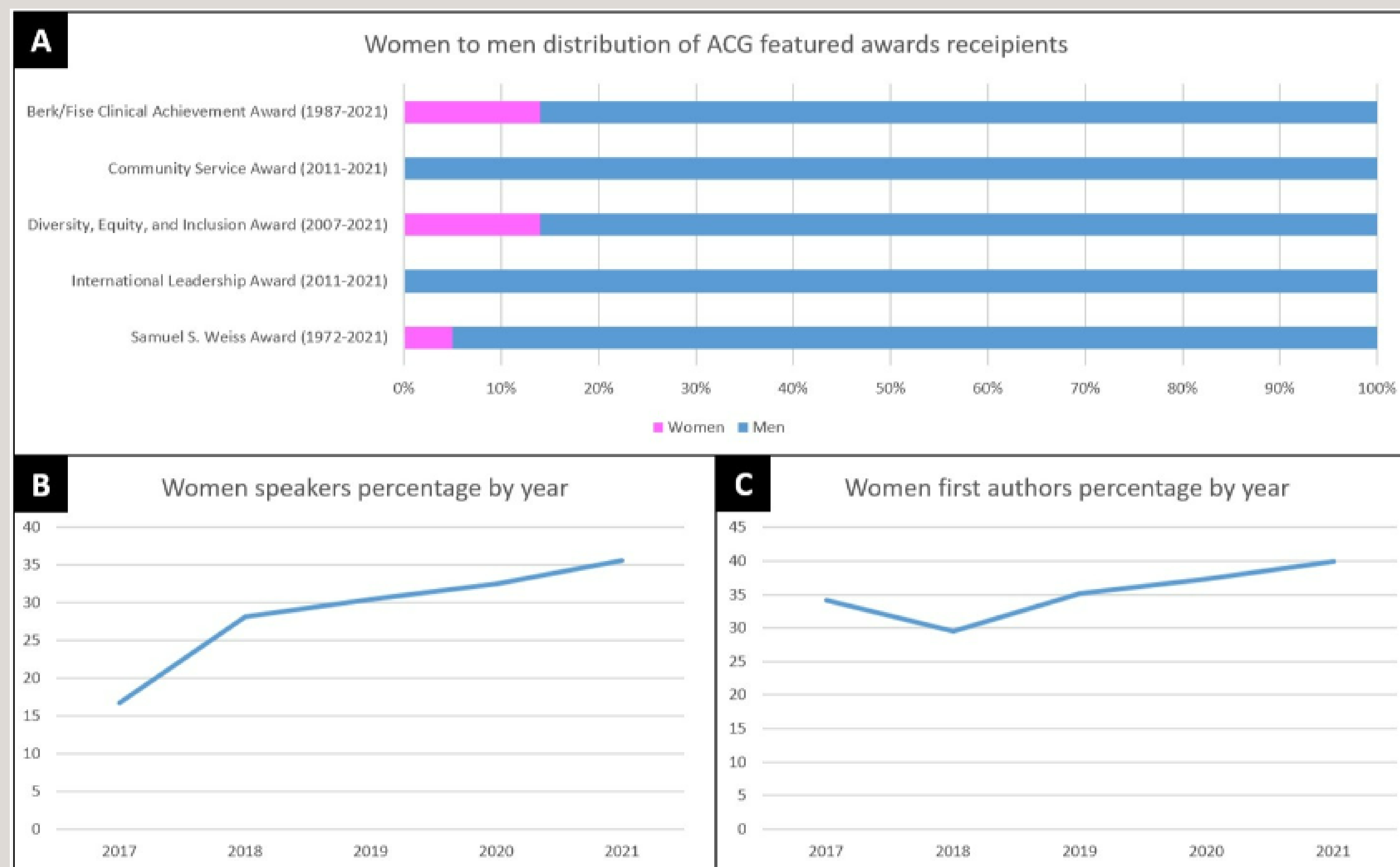
Ahmad Karkash¹, Razan Aljaras¹, Maryam Haider², Eleazar E. Montalvan¹, Renato Beas¹, Rawan Aljaras¹
¹MD, Indiana University School of Medicine; ²MD, Wayne State University/DMC Sinai Grace Hospital

INTRODUCTION

Gender gap in Medicine is real. Top male dominated specialties include orthopedic and neurological surgeries, but gastroenterology (GI) does not lag far behind. 82.4% of all gastroenterologists are men, and only 25% to 30% of trainees in the field are women. This study aims to describe women participation and representation at national ACG meetings.

METHODS

Data from the ACG database and conference materials was gathered for analysis in different categories including presidents of the ACG for the years (2000-2021), masters of the ACG and featured faculty awards over the years, first authors and faculty speakers over the past 5 years (2017-2021). Statistical analyses were conducted with the Cochran-Armitage trend test. A p-value of < 0.05 was deemed to be statistically significant.



A- Percentages of women recipients of featured ACG awards over the years. B- Percentages of women serving as faculty speakers between (2017-2021). C- Percentages of Women participating as abstract first authors between (2017-2021).

RESULTS

In the 21-year period, ACG had 18 men (86%) and 3 women (14%) serve as Presidents. Eight percent of all Masters of the ACG were women. Looking at trends from 2017-2021, the proportion of women serving as faculty speakers increased from 16.7% to 35.6% with statistically significant results (z=4.28; p< 0.0001). There was a noted statistically significant (z=5.51, p< 0.0001) increase in participation of women as abstract first authors between (2017-2021), from 34.1% to 39.9%.

DISCUSSION

Overall, there has been an increase in representation and subsequent encouragement of participation of women at the ACG meetings in the past years.