

# Reproductive Psychiatry Training within Consult Liaison Psychiatry Fellowship Programs



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# Background

- Reproductive Psychiatry is the field of medicine interested in the study and treatment of psychiatric illness during times of reproductive transitions. The field is not systematically integrated into psychiatric training and individuals experiencing reproductive mental health conditions often struggle to find care.
- The mission of the National Curriculum of Reproductive Psychiatry is to advance knowledge of psychiatric disorders across the reproductive lifespan and to promote standardization around training of health professionals in the field.
- In 2018, the leaders of the NCRP published surveys of training directors of psychiatric residency and reproductive psychiatry fellowship programs. These studies concluded that training in reproductive psychiatry is inconsistent in US psychiatric residency programs and documented a growth in independent fellowship programs in reproductive psychiatry.
- While many practicing reproductive psychiatrists are trained in consultliaison fellowship programs, the current state of reproductive psychiatry training within consult liaison psychiatry fellowship training has not been investigated.
- ACGME program requirements for consult liaison psychiatry fellowships do not require inclusion of reproductive psychiatry experiences.



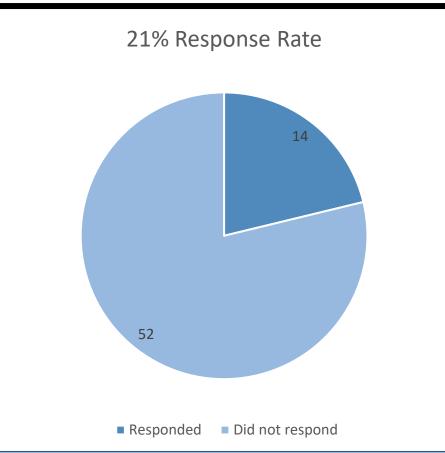
## Goal

This project aimed to characterize reproductive psychiatry training within consult liaison fellowships.

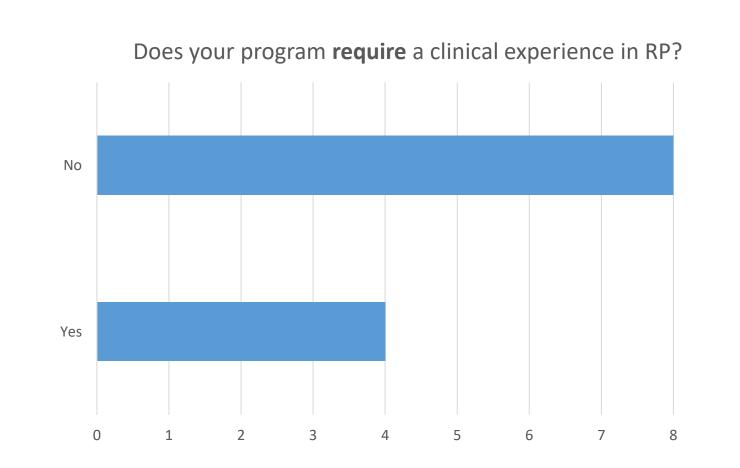
## Methods

Consult liaison fellowship directors were invited via the ACLP fellowship director listserv to participate in a study aimed at understanding opportunities for reproductive psychiatry training within their program.





## Results: Clinical Experience Requirement

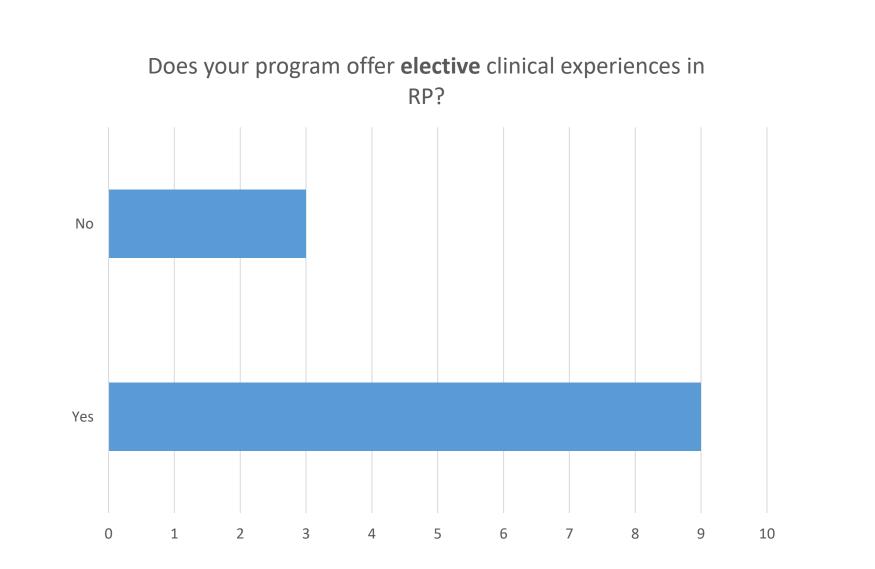


Specify the amount of time fellows are required to spend in a RP setting?

"1/2 day per week x 3 months and ½ day per week for 12 months"

"1/2 day per week for 6 months"

# Results: Clinical Experience Elective



Specify the amount of time fellows may spend on each of your RP electives?

"1/2 day per week for 1 month"

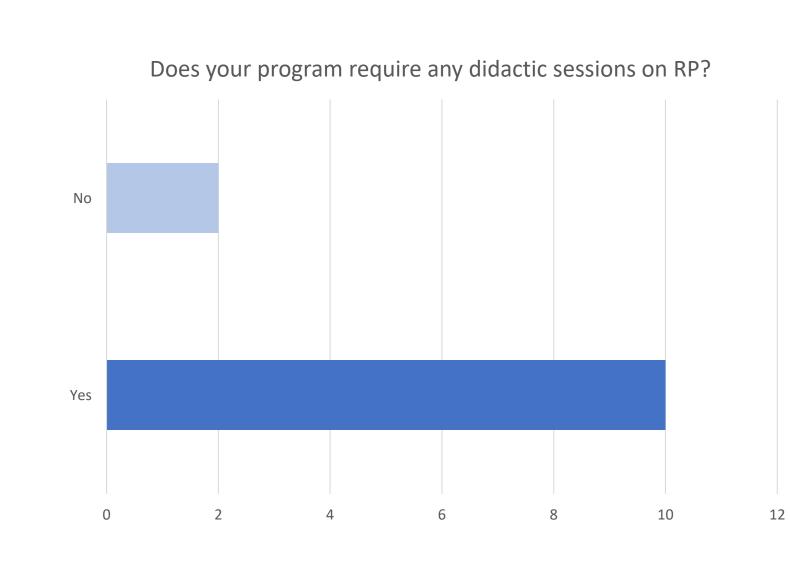
"1/2 day per week for 3, 6, 9, or 12 months"

"2-4 weeks"

"1 day per week for 2 months"

"up to 50% of their clinical time during the fellowship year"

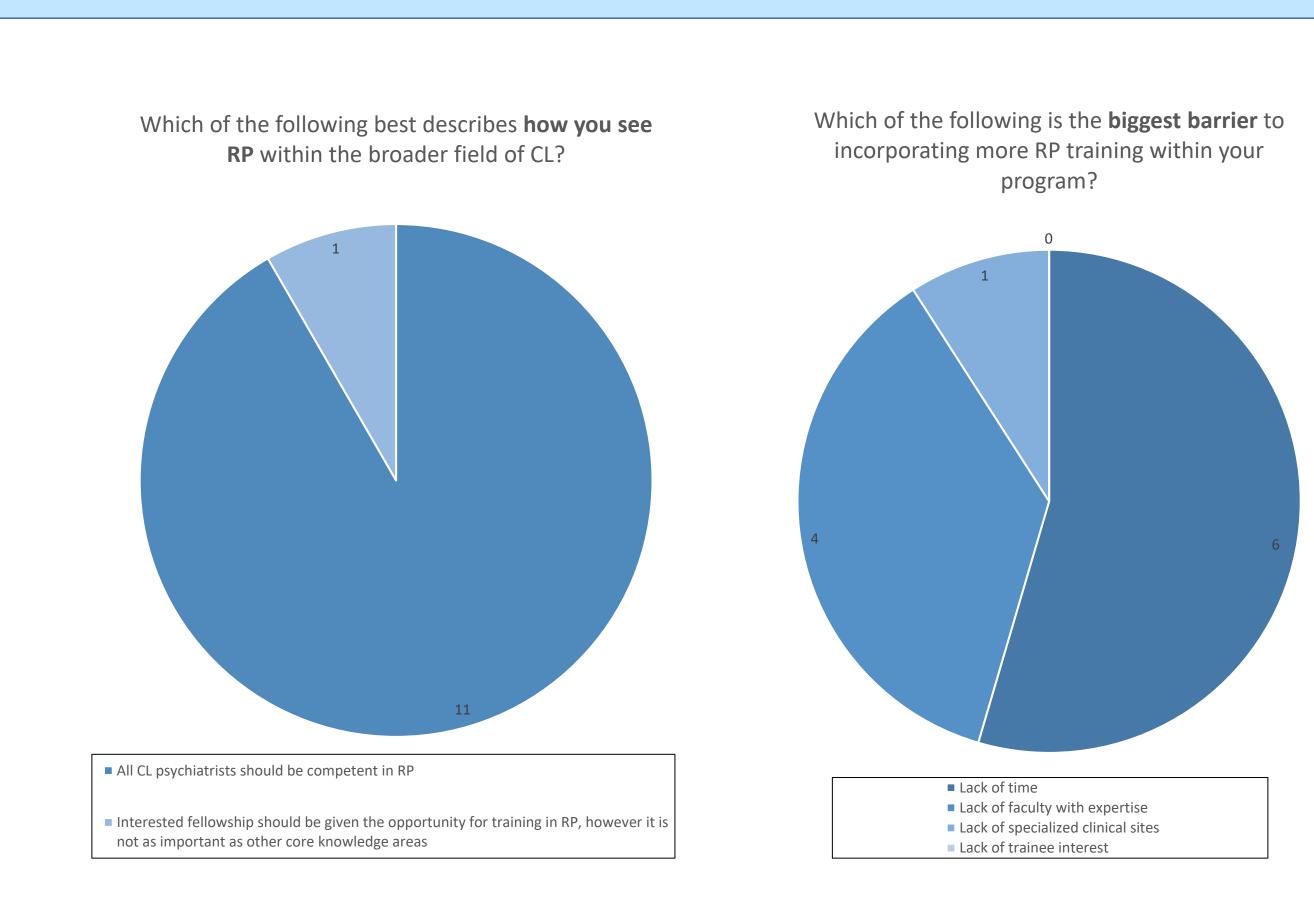
### Results: Didactic Sessions



Please describe your required RP didactics here.

- A single session (3)
- Two sessions (2)
- Three sessions (1)
- Weekly year-long didactic sessions (1)
- Unquantified (2)

### **Results: Attitudes and Barriers**



### Conclusion

- Consult liaison psychiatrists are well-positioned to provide reproductive psychiatric care.
- Nearly all consult liaison psychiatry fellowship directors believe consult liaison psychiatrists should hold competence in this area.
- One-third of respondents indicated their program had no clinical requirement and one-fourth had no opportunity for a clinical elective in a reproductive psychiatry setting.
- The most reported didactic offering was 1 or 2 sessions over the fellowship year.
- Considerable variability and lack of standardization of reproductive psychiatry training within consultation liaison psychiatry fellowship programs represents a gap in training.
- Efforts to establish standards for reproductive psychiatry education within consult liaison psychiatry fellowship training have potential to increase access to competent reproductive psychiatric care.

#### References

- . Nagle-Yang, S., Miller, L., & Osborne, L. M. (2018). Reproductive psychiatry fellowship training: identification and characterization of current programs. *Academic Psychiatry*, *42*, 202-206.
- Osborne, L. M., Hermann, A., Burt, V., Driscoll, K., Fitelson, E., Meltzer-Brody, S., ... & National Task Force on Women's Reproductive Mental Health. (2015). Reproductive psychiatry: the gap between clinical need and education. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 172(10), 946-948.
- 3. Osborne, L. M., MacLean, J. V., Barzilay, E. M., Meltzer-Brody, S., Miller, L., & Yang, S. N. (2018). Reproductive psychiatry residency training: a survey of psychiatric residency program directors. *Academic Psychiatry*, *4*2, 197-201.