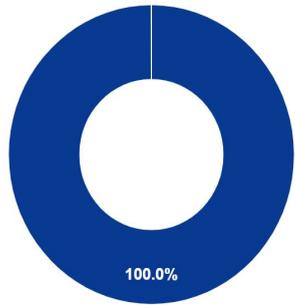


Neuromuscular Physiatrists: The Inclusion of Physiatry-Trained Fellows within Predominantly Neurology-Run Neuromuscular Medicine Fellowships

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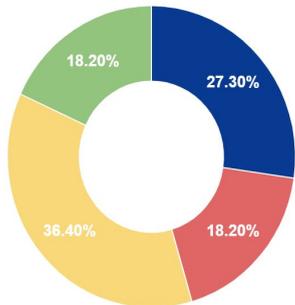
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What department is your Neuromuscular Medicine fellowship housed under?



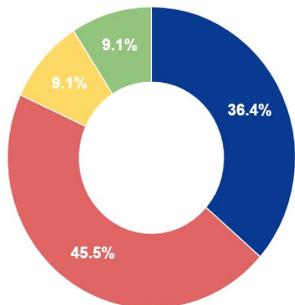
● Neurology ● Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

What region is your Neuromuscular Medicine fellowship located in?



● Northeast ● Central ● South ● West

How many fellows do you currently accept into your fellowship each year?



● 1 ● 2 ● 3 ● 4

Objectives

There are 52 ACGME-accredited neuromuscular (NM) medicine fellowships in the United States. These programs are predominantly neurology-run; however, physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R) physicians have also successfully completed these fellowships. The purpose of this study was to assess the inclusion of PM&R within NM medicine fellowships.

Design

A 19-question Google form survey was created to assess the role of PM&R within NM medicine fellowships. This survey was sent to each of the 52 ACGME-accredited NM medicine fellowship program directors. Results were found by analyzing the recorded responses.

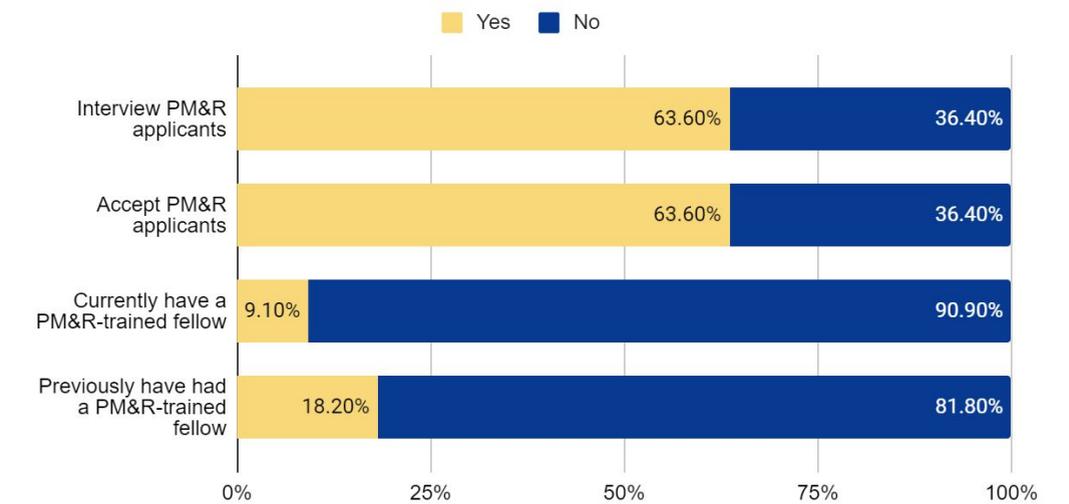
Key Findings

- **63.3% of responding NM Fellowships accept PM&R applicants, but only 9.1% currently have an 18.2% have ever had a PM&R trained fellow.**
- **None of the programs have dedicated PM&R spots, nor PM&R continuity clinics. Only 27.2% offer a PM&R elective.**
- **When questioned about how PM&R applicants could improve their candidacy, multiple programs responded that they typically start with neurology applicants because there are significant neurologic differential diagnoses and disease management skills that are not suited to PM&R-trained applicants.**

Conclusions

While a majority of programs are willing to interview and accept PM&R-trained fellows, many NM fellowships still reserve their training to solely neurology-trained applicants. Even though physiatrists are able to receive subspecialty board certification in NM medicine through the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, it appears to be an uphill battle for those interested. Further studies would delve more into how a neuromuscular-trained physiatrist would benefit a multidisciplinary team that treats neuromuscular disorders.

Neuromuscular Fellowships Attitudes Towards PM&R-trained Applicants



Neuromuscular Fellowship Leadership

