

The Impact of the Doctor of Medical Science (DMSc) on Scholarship Productivity Among PAs

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Background

- There has been rapid growth in the number of programs offering the Doctor of Medical Science degree (DMSc)
- One of the principal goals of the DMSc is to advance the PA profession, including in areas of peer-reviewed publications.
- The purpose of the study is to examine the peer-reviewed publication productivity of PA-trained DMSc graduates

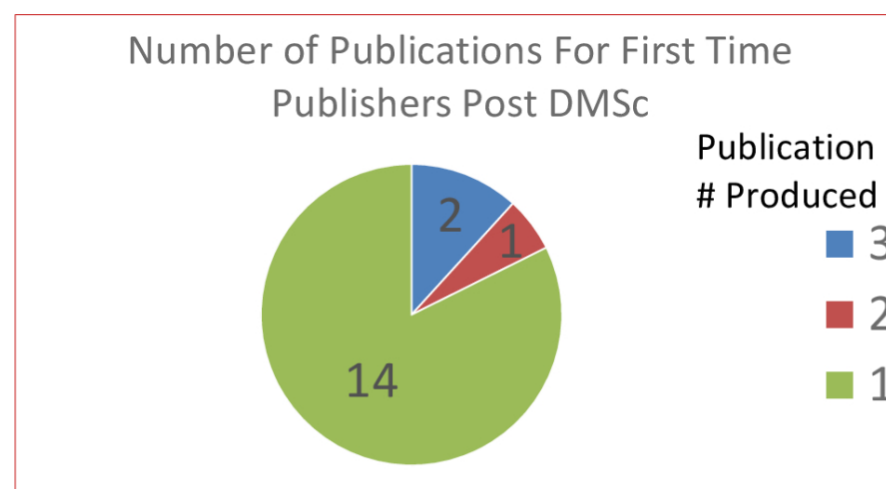
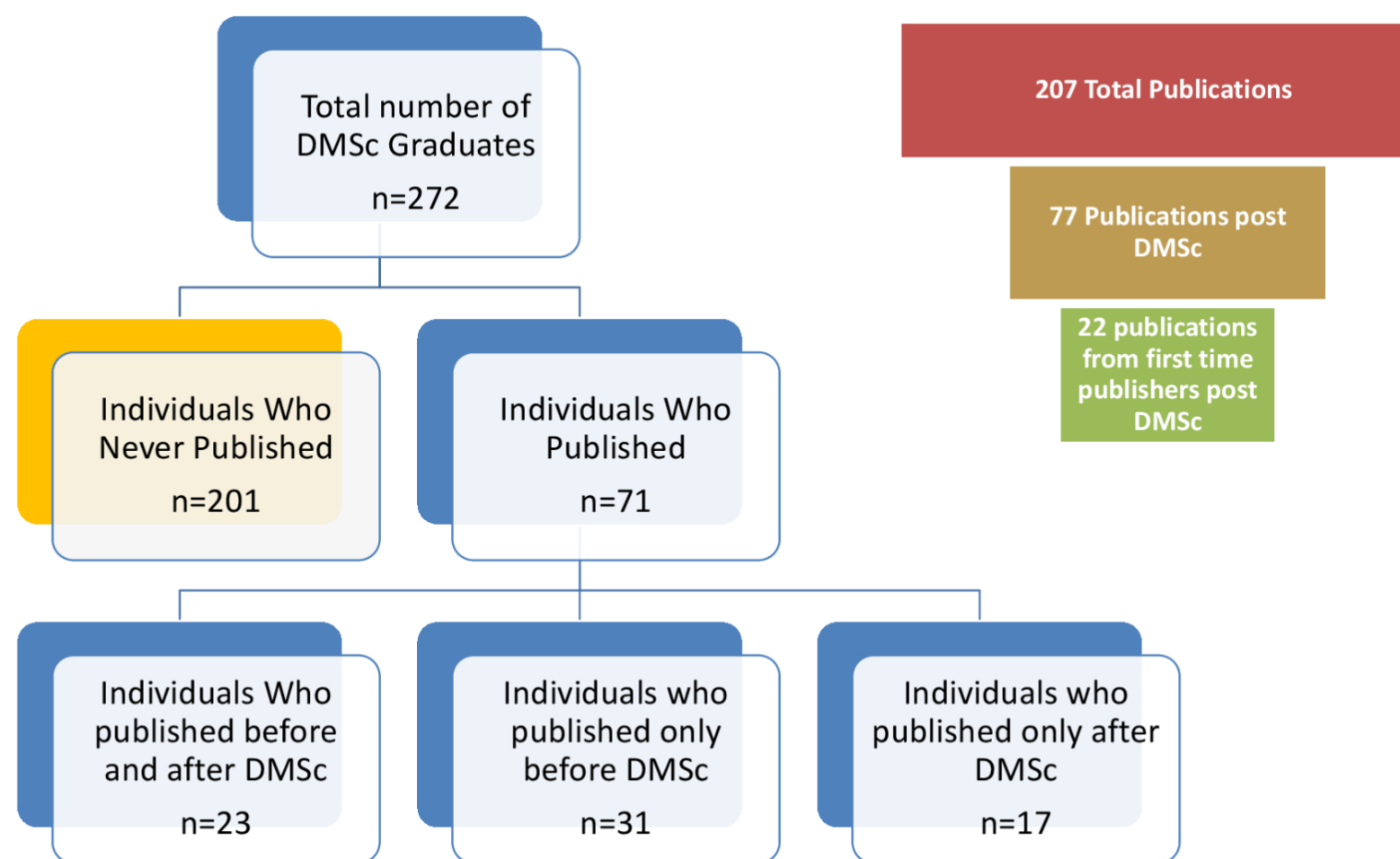
Methods

Phase I ✓ LinkedIn profiles were searched for PAs who have earned a DMSc between 2018 and January 2022. 272 randomly selected candidates were selected. The search term used was, DMSc, PA-C. And the results were filtered by colleges and universities that offer the DMSc degree

Phase II ✓ Peer-reviewed publications of each DMSc graduate were identified using Google Scholar
 ✓ Publications were then cross-referenced by searching for the graduate's name in SCOPUS.

Phase III ✓ Lifetime and post-DMSc peer-reviewed publications were tallied for each graduate

Results



Discussion

- 71 out of 272 (26.1%) graduates had EVER published. Of these:
 - 40 (14.7%) published after obtaining DMSc.
 - 17 (6.3%) published for the first time after obtaining DMSc
- 77 out of 207 (37.2%) publications were published after obtaining DMSc
- About 44% of publications were by 10 individuals. Those same 10 individuals accounted for 40% of the work published after graduation

Conclusion

- Nearly half of peer-reviewed publications by DMSc graduates are produced by only a handful of individuals, many of whom had a history of publishing before obtaining a DMSc.
- DMSc programs should find ways to promote, support, and motivate students to publish peer-reviewed publications

Limitations

Small, convenient, random sample – total number of DMSc graduates to date is unknown

References

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