

**B27**

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**Analyzing the Research Publications of Successful Ophthalmology Residency Matches in 2024: Trends, Impact, and Outcomes**

**Objective**

To analyze the quantity and quality of research publications of medical students who matched into the top 25 ophthalmology programs in the 2024 cycle and compare these results to previous match cycles.

**Participants**

Study participants included 147 matriculating ophthalmology residents attending the top 25 programs as determined by Doximity.

**Methods**

This study used the Doximity Residency Navigator website to determine which programs were ranked in the top 25 in the country. Several websites were used to determine which students matched at the top 25 residencies. Once these students were identified, their research publications were collected via Pubmed and analyzed through various criteria. This data was then compared to that of previous ophthalmology match cycles.

**Main Outcome Measures**

The total number of publications were retrieved for each student; Publication-specific data such as journal name, authorship rank, date of publication, relation to ophthalmology (Yes/No), study type, h-5 index score, and citation count were obtained for each publication.

**Results**

The mean number of publications was  $6.79 \pm 7.65$ , median = 5 and the most frequent number of publications was 3 (N = 24). The mean number of first-author publications was ( $M = 2.35 \pm 2.91$ ) while second author was ( $M = 1.42 \pm 1.72$ ), and third author was ( $M = 0.92 \pm 1.30$ ). A two-tailed independent samples t-test showed no significant difference in total publications between students entering programs ranked in the top 10 (N = 66) ( $M = 8.20 \pm 9.97$ ) vs students entering programs ranked from 11-25 (N = 81) ( $M = 5.74 \pm 4.96$ ),  $t(145) = 1.94$ ,  $p = 0.054$ , Cohen's d estimate = 0.323. There was a significant increase in publications compared to 2021 ( $M = 2.7 [2] \pm 3.1$ ) ( $p < 0.01$ ) and 2022 ( $M = 3.04 [3] \pm 0.35$ ) ( $p = 0.018$ ).

**Conclusion**

Within matched applicants of the top 25 ophthalmology programs, there has been a significant increase in the number of research publications compared to that of the last 3 years.