Introduction
Publication Rates Among Abstracts Presented at National Meetings
- To judge the quality of a researcher's endeavors, one looks at the frequency of their presentations at national meetings.
- From a tradition of presenting research and discussion to a more recent focus of presenting results.
- Poster presentations are an important component of these meetings.
- The impact of a researcher's contributions is often measured by the number of publications resulting from these presentations.

Methods
2,464 total abstracts presented at the AAO-HNS meeting between 2000 and 2004 were searched in the computerized database PubMed for subsequent evaluation for publication. Evaluation was conducted by two reviewers, with the abstracts being separated into four groups: those with identical hypotheses, design, or protocols, or if with similar number of specimens or results, were included as a match. No effort was made to check for multiple papers stemming from the same abstract. Time to publication was calculated from the abstract's presentation date to the date of acceptance. Time to publication was rounded to the nearest month. Articles published in peer-reviewed journals before being presented at appropriate AAO-HNS annual meetings were given negative numbers.

Results
- The publication rates of abstracts presented by female authors and the time to publication are equal to males.
- Women more commonly have poster presentations accepted than oral presentations.
- Pediatric Otolaryngology is the most common subspecialty to have female first or final authors.
- Statistical comparison of productivity among the genders is difficult as the number of potential female authors is not equivalent to Academy membership.

Conclusions
- While 11.9% of all academy members are female, women accounted for 17.4% of first authors delivering all abstracts at the AAO-HNS meetings between 2000-2004.
- The publication rates of abstracts presented by female authors and the time to publication are equal to males.
- Women more commonly have poster presentations accepted than oral presentations.
- Pediatric Otolaryngology is the most common subspecialty to have female first or final authors.
- Statistical comparison of productivity among the genders is difficult as the number of potential female authors is not equivalent to Academy membership.

Selected References