

Social Media Use by Medical Students and Residency Program Directors

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Background

Some residency **program directors** (PD) use social media to assess candidates and more intend to use it in the future.

We don't know how **medical students** (MS) perceive the impact of their social media presence on residency selection

Aim: We aimed to compare **PD** and **MS** perceptions of social media on residency selection

Methods

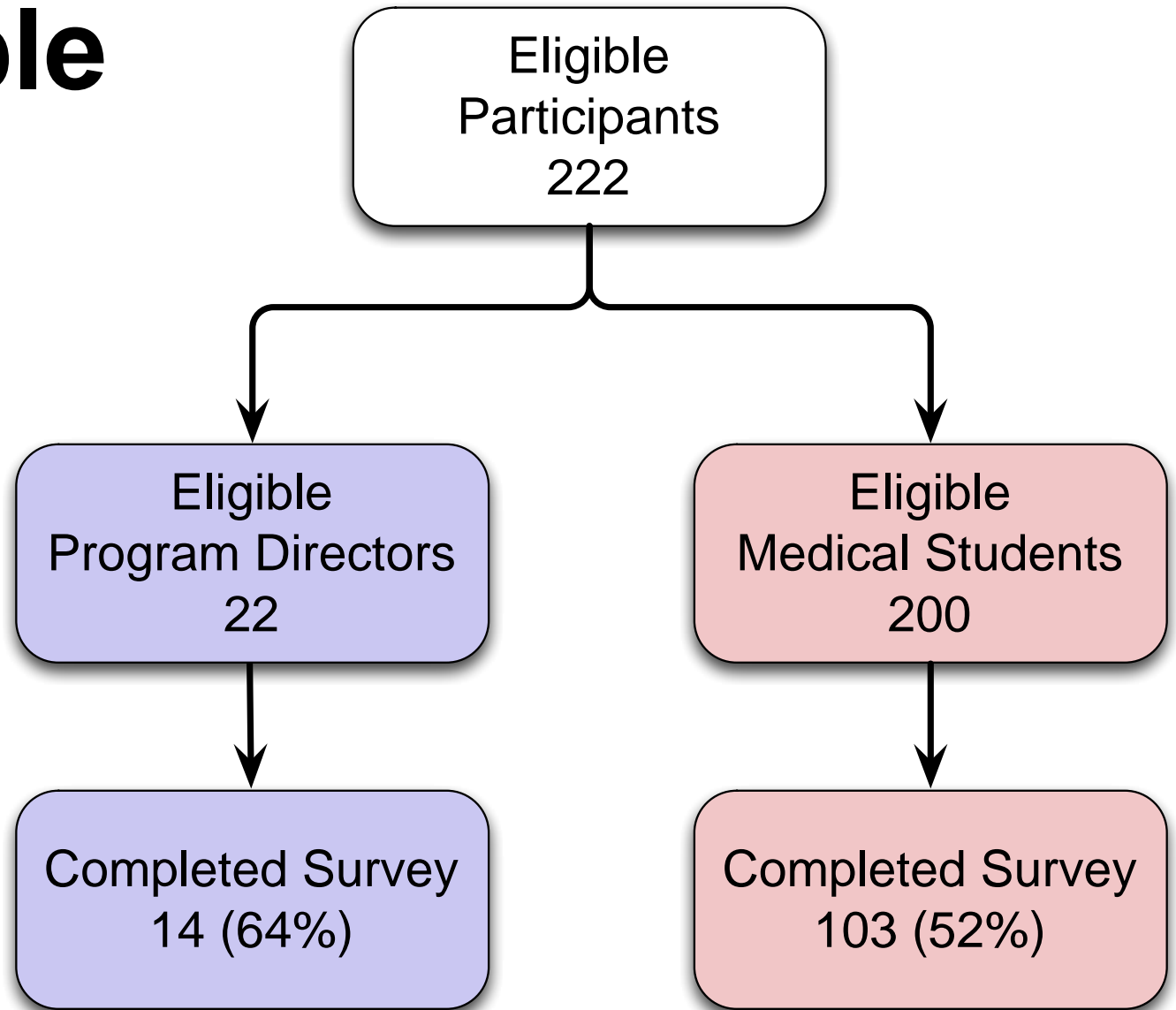
Online survey (Fluid Survey) distributed in April 2013 to:

Program Directors: 22 residency PDs at Queen's University

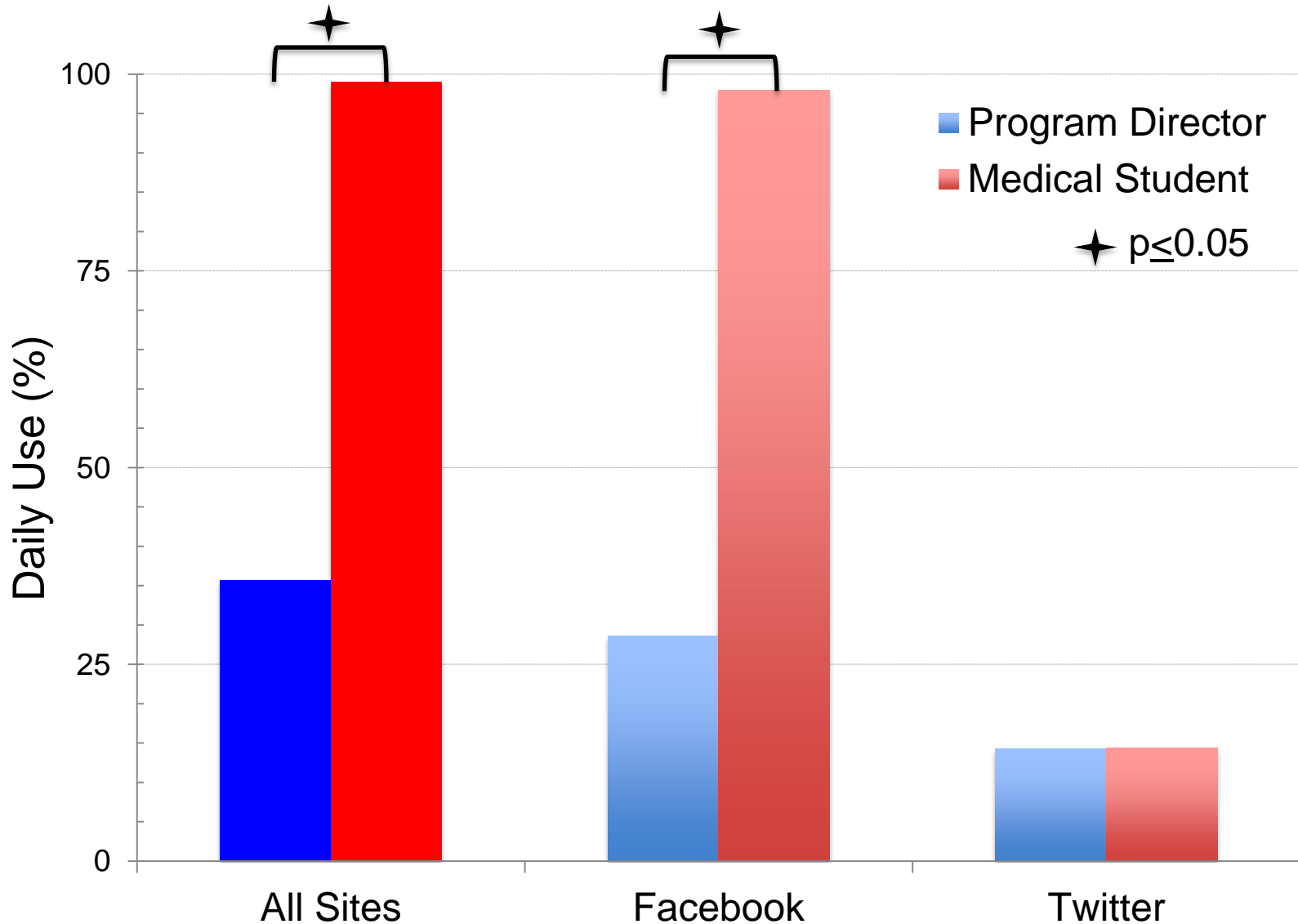
Medical Students: 200 pre-clerkship MS at Queen's University.

Statistical analysis with descriptive statistics, chi-square and Fishers exact tests using SPSS.

Sample Size



Daily Use of Social Media



Presently

None of PDs use social media to evaluate candidates

but...

37% of MS believe it is a factor. ($p=0.01$)

In the Future

31% of PDs will likely use social media to evaluate candidates

however...


68% of MS believed that social media should **not** be a factor in residency selection.

Medical student perceived impact of digital footprint on residency application



 22% thought digital footprint would **negatively** impact application

 12% thought digital footprint would **positively** impact application

 66% thought digital footprint would have **neutral** impact on application

Conclusions

Medical students use social media more frequently than program directors.

Program directors' **intentions** and medical students' **opinions** on the future use of social media in residency selection differ.

Open discussion about the role of digital footprints is needed to clarify their current and future role in residency selection.