

„New vision for primary health care and sustainable development“

Bringing together an international Francophone primary care research network: Results of a consultation to define concrete actions

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CONCLUSIONS

- The anglicization of science: a global trend
- A common language (English): important for collaboration and scientific knowledge exchange
- Disadvantages for researchers whose mother tongue is not English and for local stakeholders who do not speak English
- A need to focus on mobilizing knowledge in French for local knowledge users and French-speaking communities, supported by an active network of patient partners
- French-speaking countries and regions: different realities, but common opportunities for action

Context

- A need to develop a French-language research capacity (by and for)
- Forum initiated by the Francophone Primary Care Group (GFSP) during the 2024 North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) meeting
- Representatives: Canada (New Brunswick, Ontario, Québec), France, Switzerland
- Discussions – courses of action for:
 - Promoting French-language in international primary care research
 - Improving the health of Francophone communities

Methods

- World Café method
 - 39 people discussed 3 topics
 - Random division into 6 groups
 - Consecutive rounds of 30, 20, and 10 minutes
 - Summary in plenary session
 - Data: note-takers' notebooks, plenary session notes, flip chart notes, sociodemographic questionnaires
- Thematic analysis – NVivo 1.7.2

Results

Observations and courses of action made by participants

Recognizing the challenges of French-speaking researchers

- A tendency to favor English (publications, grant applications, career development)
- Feelings of inequity in the funding of research conducted in French
- Disadvantages in terms of dissemination of scientific knowledge (e.g., higher impact factors for English-language publications)
- A desire to cultivate multilingualism in teams and collaborations

Improving scientific communication

- Promotion of publications and conferences in French
- Better cataloguing of French-language sources and increased availability of open access resources
- Better institutional support for the translation of works and conferences
- Possibility of publishing the same content in French and English, particularly for the benefit of knowledge users

Training the next generation and working on career development

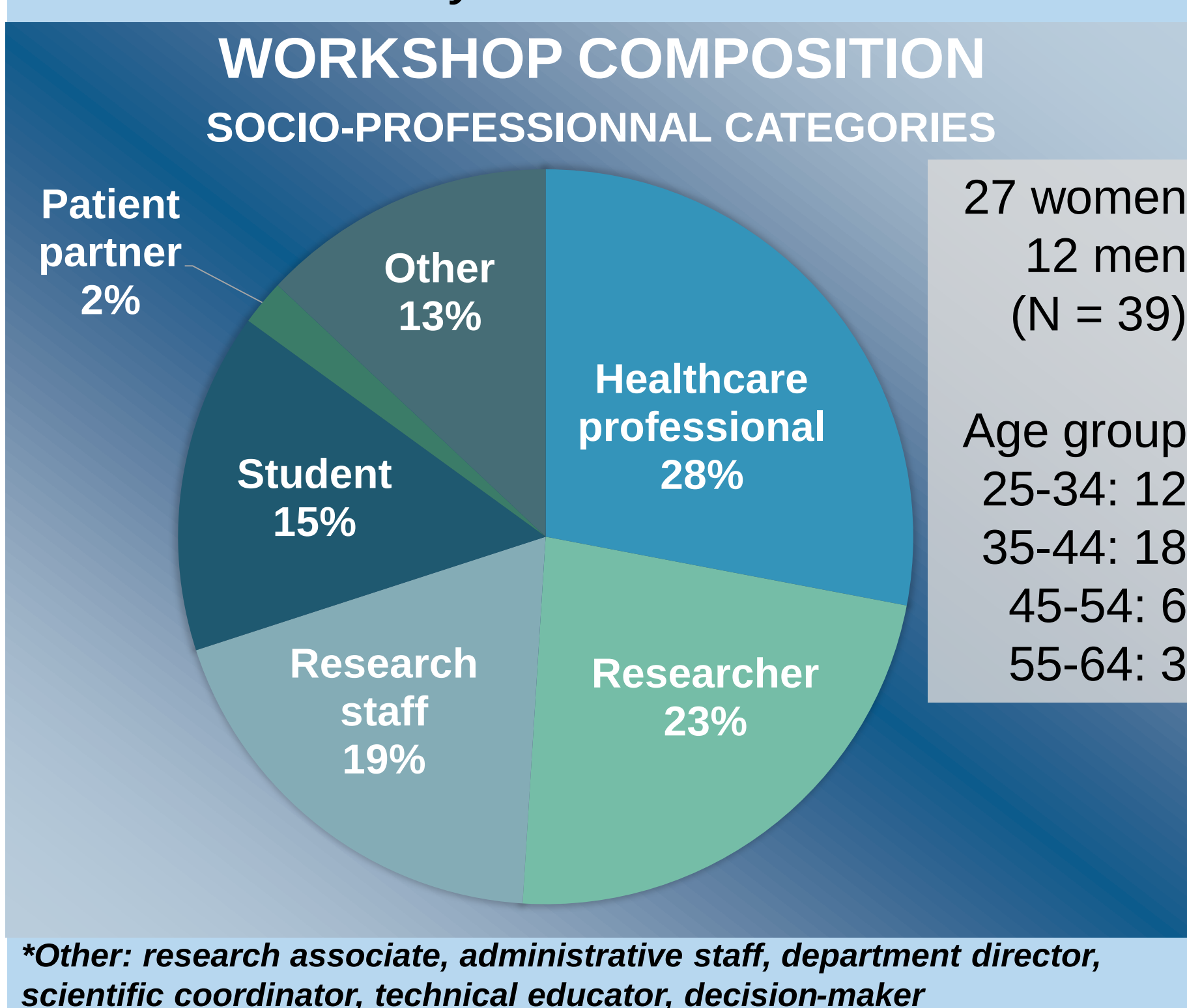
- Involvement in French-language research from the start of academic studies or university career
- Recognition of the responsibility of research supervisors

Adjusting funding & assessment standards

- Renewal of assessment criteria for French-speaking researchers (funding agencies, universities) – San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment, DORA
- Enhancement of opportunities for funding French-language primary care research

Cultivating relationships and networking

- Professional interpersonal relationships among members of a shared linguistic community
- Communication in French during national and international conferences, both formal and informal
- Mentoring, communities of practice, and coaching as support mechanisms
- Collaboration between French-speaking and bilingual universities through resource sharing, researcher development, exchanges, and joint supervision
- Research networks spanning the entire French-speaking world



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