

# Fellows Abroad: National Landscape of Global Health Opportunities in Pediatric Fellowships

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## BACKGROUND

- Trainees with interest and exposure to global health (GH) bring their passion for improving child health globally to their future fellowship and these offerings influence choice and ranking of programs
- While programs are responding to this demand **GH opportunities in pediatric fellowship programs in the United States (US) are poorly described**



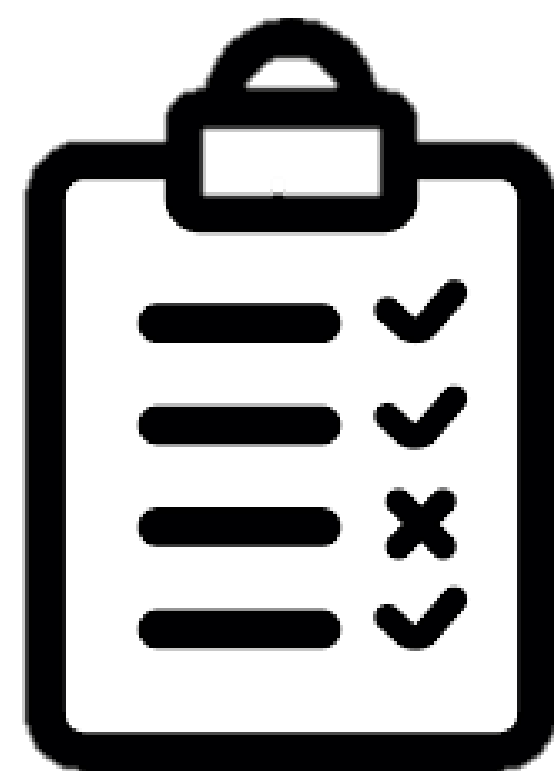
## OBJECTIVE

Evaluate the landscape of GH offerings among pediatric fellowship programs and identify barriers to implementation

Quantitative cross-sectional survey with qualitative analysis of open-ended questions

We distributed REDCap surveys via email to all ACGME and APA-accredited fellowship program directors, associate program directors, and program coordinators November 2017 – August 2018

## METHODS



Survey content:

- Demographic information
- GH program characteristics
- GH educational opportunities
- GH scholarly projects
- GH supervision/mentorship
- GH funding
- GH mechanisms for evaluation
- Approach to certification/accreditation

Based on responses programs were grouped into 3 mutually exclusive categories for statistical analysis: **No GH Opportunities, GH Electives and GH Tracks**

## RESULTS

### INTERNATIONAL GH ROTATIONS

#### Pretravel Preparation

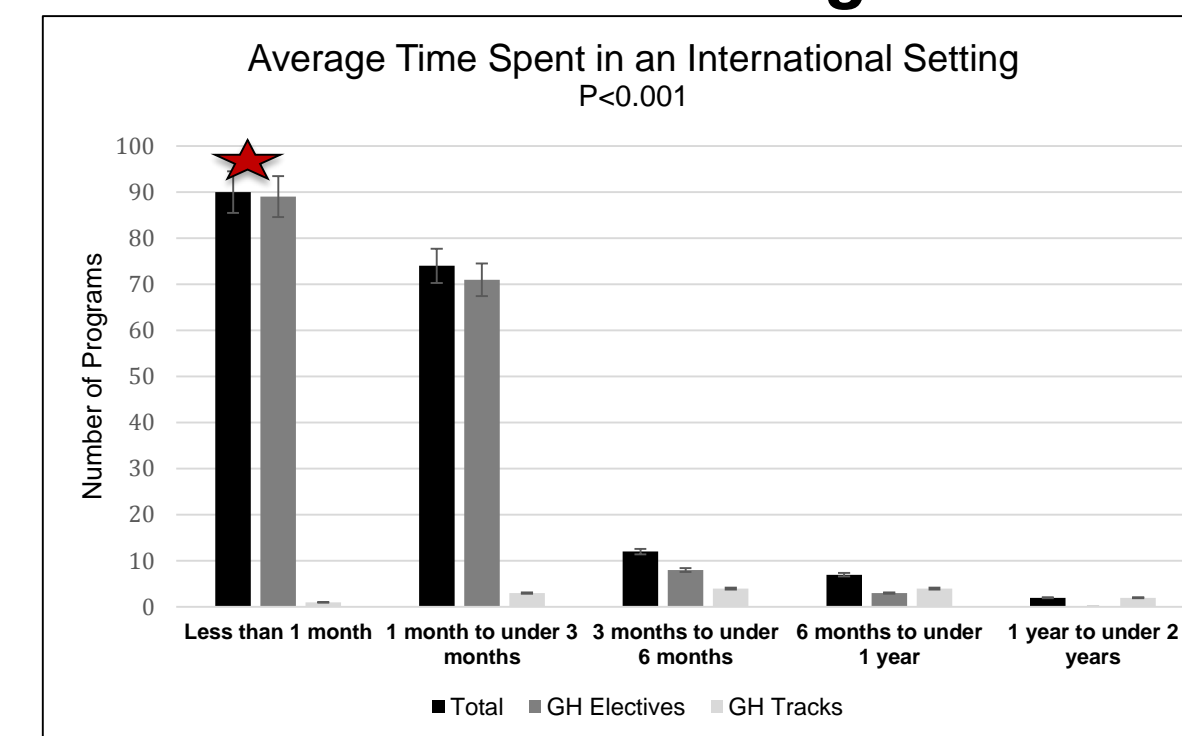
Pre-travel preparation for international rotations (N=181)*			
Preparation elements	Total N (%)	GH Electives N = 167 (92%) N (%)	GH Tracks N = 14 (8%) N (%)
Pre-departure meeting			
Not Offered	20 (11.0)	19 (11.3)	1 (7.1)
Offered but not required	59 (32.4)	57 (33.9)	2 (14.3)
Required	103 (56.6)	92 (54.8)	11 (78.6)
Pre-departure curriculum			
Not Offered	60 (33.0)	59 (35.1)	1 (7.1)
Offered but not required	60 (33.0)	56 (33.3)	4 (28.6)
Required	62 (34.1)	53 (31.5)	9 (64.3)
Simulation Sessions			
Not Offered	112 (61.5)	107 (63.7)	5 (35.7)
Offered but not required	48 (26.4)	45 (26.8)	3 (21.4)
Required	22 (12.1)	16 (9.5)	6 (42.9)
Host Site Orientation			
Not Offered	34 (18.7)	31 (18.5)	3 (21.4)
Offered but not required	70 (38.5)	66 (39.3)	4 (28.6)
Required	78 (42.9)	71 (42.3)	7 (50.0)
Education on Culture Shock			
Not Offered	79 (43.4)	78 (46.4)	1 (7.1)
Offered but not required	65 (35.7)	59 (35.1)	6 (42.9)
Required	38 (20.9)	31 (18.5)	7 (50.0)
Debriefing Process			
Not Offered	27 (14.8)	26 (15.5)	1 (7.1)
Offered but not required	66 (36.3)	64 (38.1)	2 (14.3)
Required	89 (48.9)	78 (46.4)	11 (78.6)
Journaling or Self-Reflection			
Not Offered	52 (28.6)	48 (28.6)	4 (28.6)
Offered but not required	89 (48.9)	83 (49.4)	6 (42.9)
Required	41 (22.5)	37 (22.0)	4 (28.6)

\*This variable was missing for 5 GH Elective and 1 GH Track program

#### GH TRACKS

- Since 2005, **10 fellowships with GH Tracks have graduated 46 fellows** and nearly all still work in GH
- 71% of GH Tracks believe that national accreditation of GH fellowships would define minimum programmatic standards and 64% believe it would improve recruitment and legitimize GH as a subspecialty

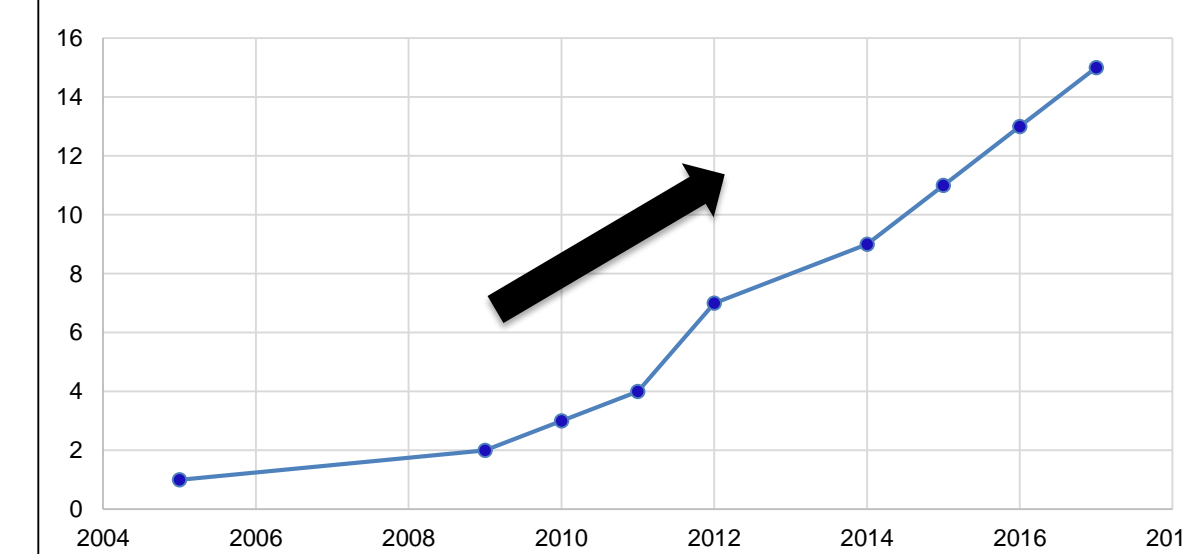
#### Rotation Length



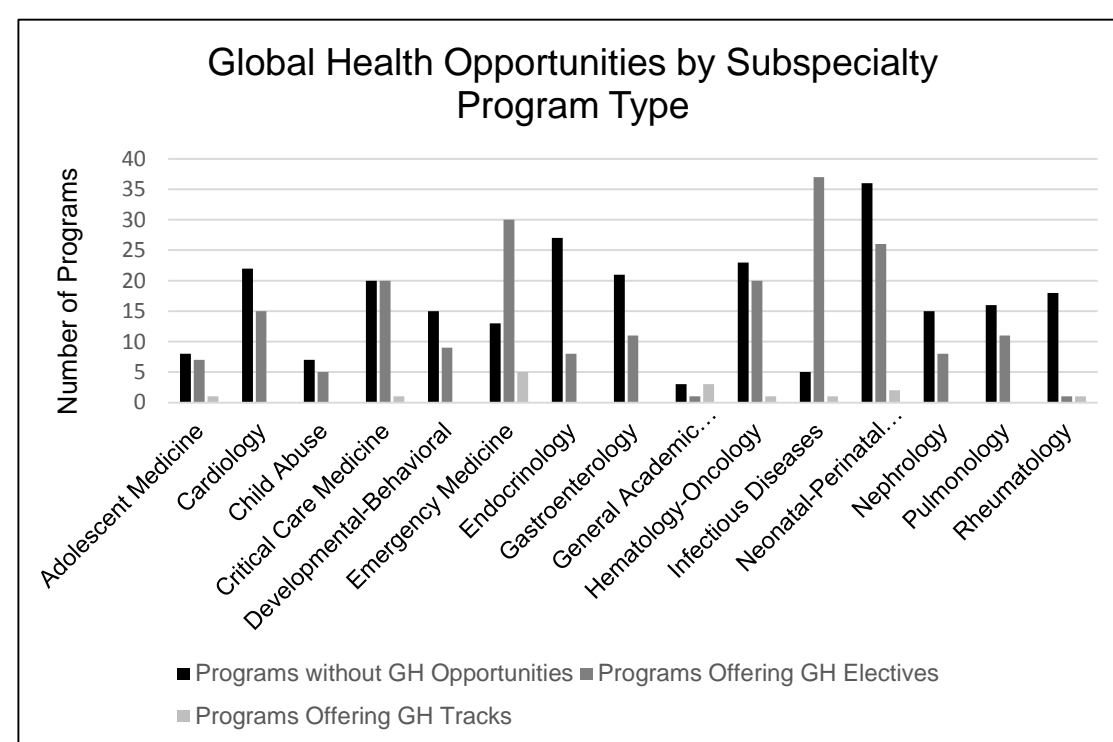
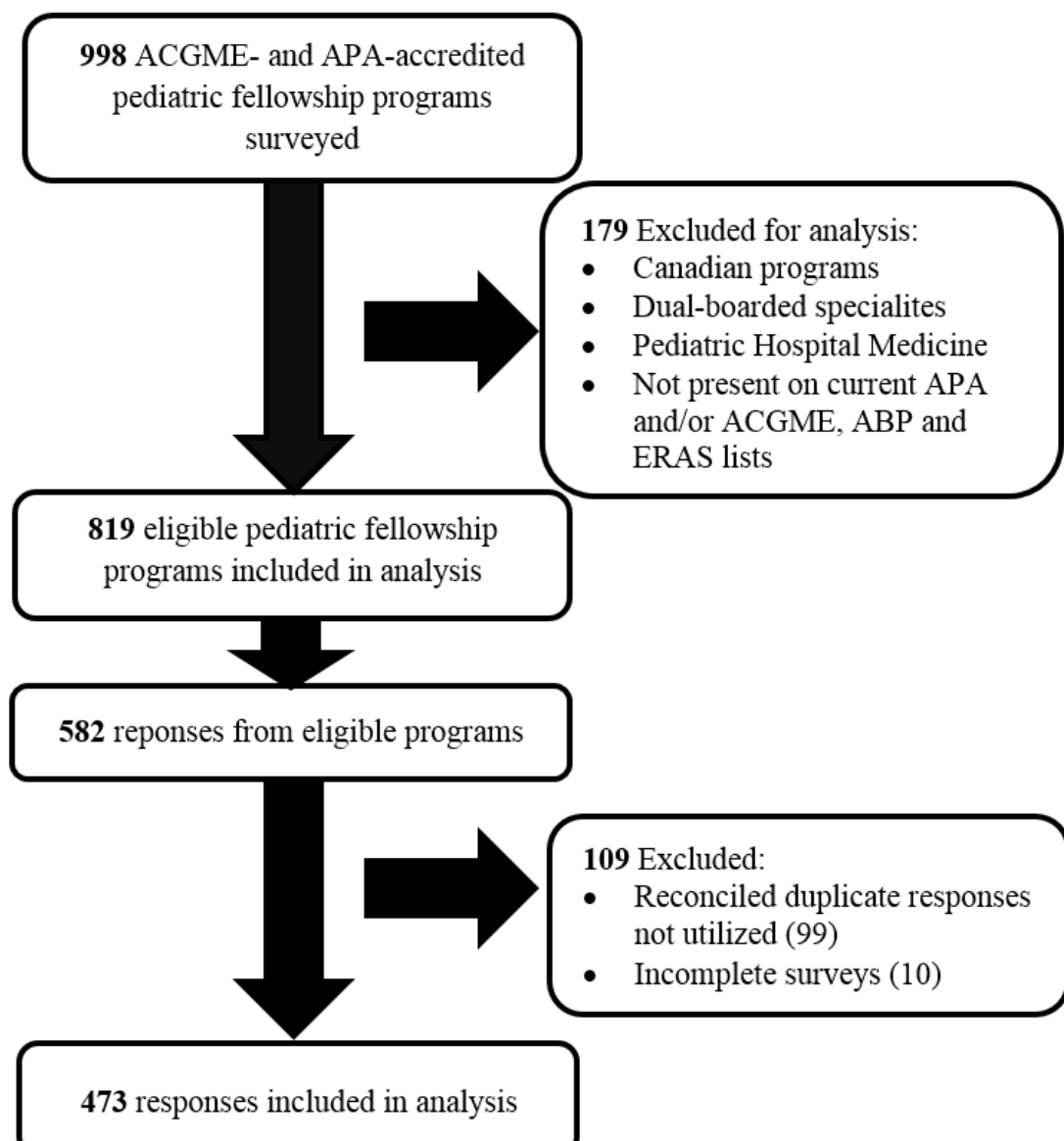
#### Scholarship

90% (178) of programs offering GH opportunities stated a GH project could fulfill ABP-required scholarly activity but nearly 20% of programs have no GH faculty on the fellow SOC indicating **possible gaps in supervision and mentorship**

#### Cumulative Count of GH Tracks



## RESULTS

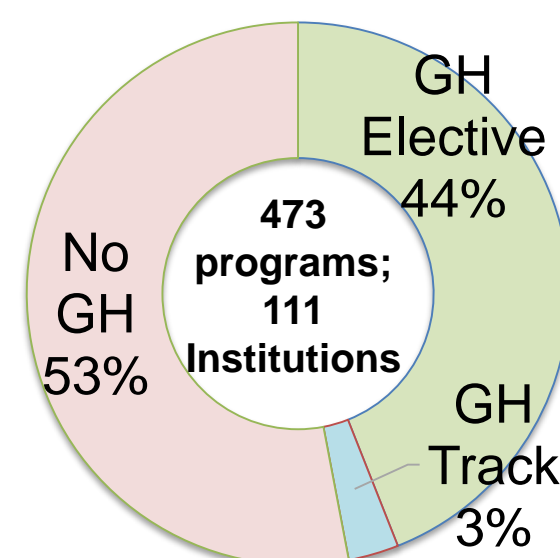


Those offering GH opportunities were more likely to report that **GH training improves fellow education (81.9% vs. 38.3%, p<0.001) and recruitment (76.8% vs. 35.9%, p<0.001)**

**Pediatric Infectious Diseases (OR 9.97, 95% CI 3.9 – 25.8), Pediatric Emergency Medicine (OR 3.4, 95% CI 1.7 – 6.5) and larger programs (median of 6 fellows per year, p<0.001) are more likely to offer GH opportunities**

**Barriers to offering GH:** funding (56%), competing educational demands (53%), lack of international partnerships (47%), lack of a GH curriculum (47%)

58%  
Response  
Rate



## CONCLUSIONS

- GH experiences are a prevalent part of many US pediatric fellowship programs
- Programs offering GH training perceive that these opportunities improve the overall education of fellows and recruitment of fellows to their program, but there are gaps in operationalization of these training experiences
- Areas of need include pre-travel preparation, supervision and mentorship