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JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

Section E

Authorship

Who Gets To Be an Author?

- What does authorship mean?
- What have people said about the topic.
- Case examples.

Guidelines

- Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals—writing and editing for biomedical publications
 - “Authorship credit should be based on the following:
 1. Substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data;
 2. Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and
 3. Final approval of the version to be published
 - Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3.”

Guidelines

- “Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not justify authorship.”
- “Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content.”

Ashton Business School Policy Document

“‘Substantial contribution’ refers to intellectual contribution to a project and/or writing such as formulation of research ideas; research design; major analysis; interpretation of findings and theoretical development. ‘Intellectual contribution’ does not necessarily refer to input of time, methodological advice, or to the carrying out of technical tasks such as literature review, data collection, data analysis or editing.”

—*Ashton Business School Policy Document, 2006*

JAMA Guidelines

- To qualify for authorship, you must check at least one box for each of the three categories of contributions listed below

- I have made substantial contributions to the intellectual content of the paper as described below . . .
 1. Check at least one of the three below
 - ▶ Conception and design
 - ▶ Acquisition of data
 - ▶ Analysis and interpretation of data
 2. Check at least one of two below
 - ▶ Drafting of the manuscript
 - ▶ Critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content
 3. Check at least one below
 - ▶ Statistical analysis
 - ▶ Obtaining funding
 - ▶ Administrative, technical, or material support
 - ▶ Supervision
 - ▶ No additional contributions
 - ▶ Other (specify)

Guest/Honorary Authorship

- Inclusion of someone with minimal scientific contribution as a tribute or compensation for service
- Ghost authorship
 - Someone who wrote the article or had significant scientific role is not included

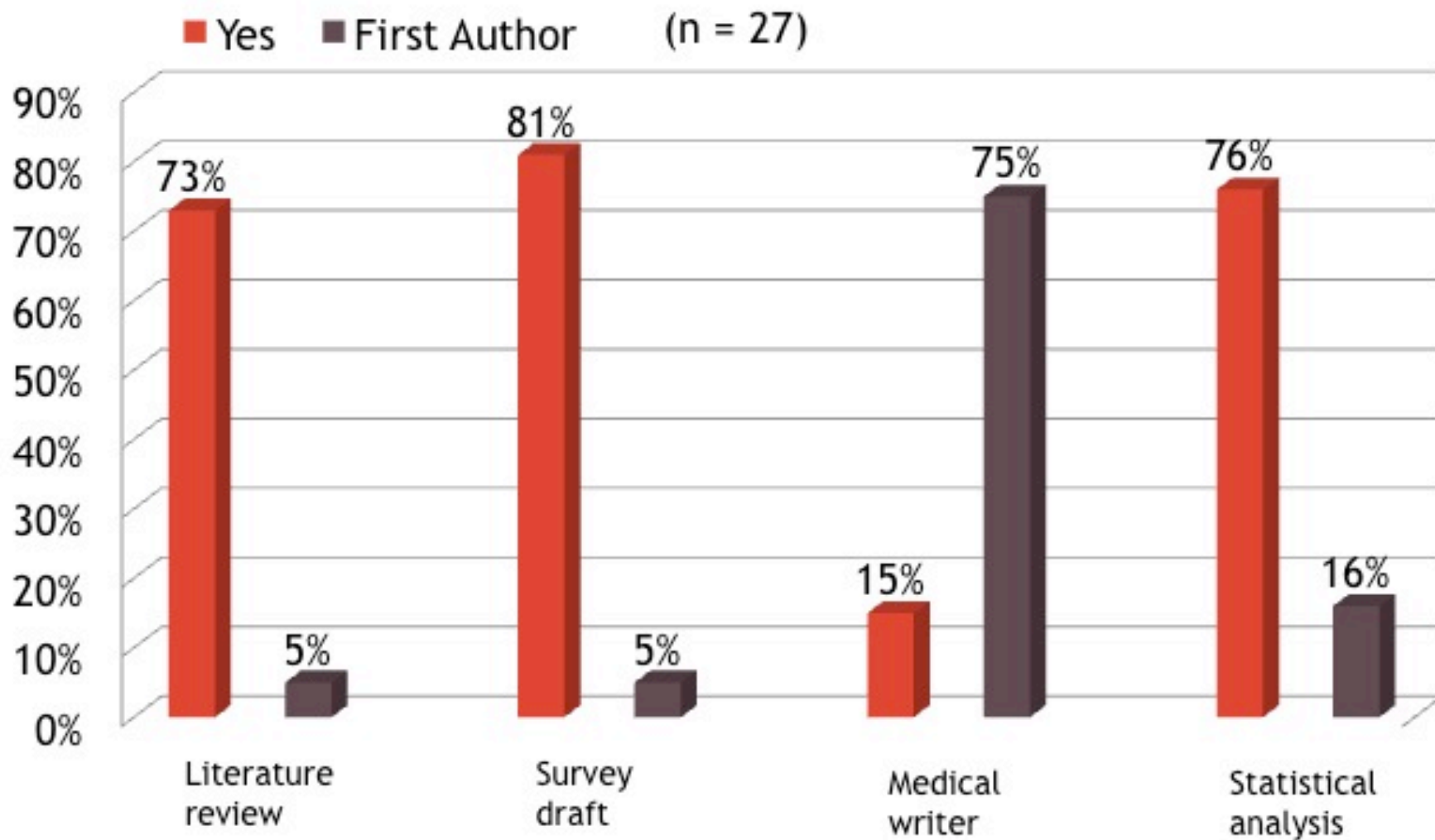
Prevention of Authorship Disputes?

- Discuss authorship ahead of time (including order of authors)

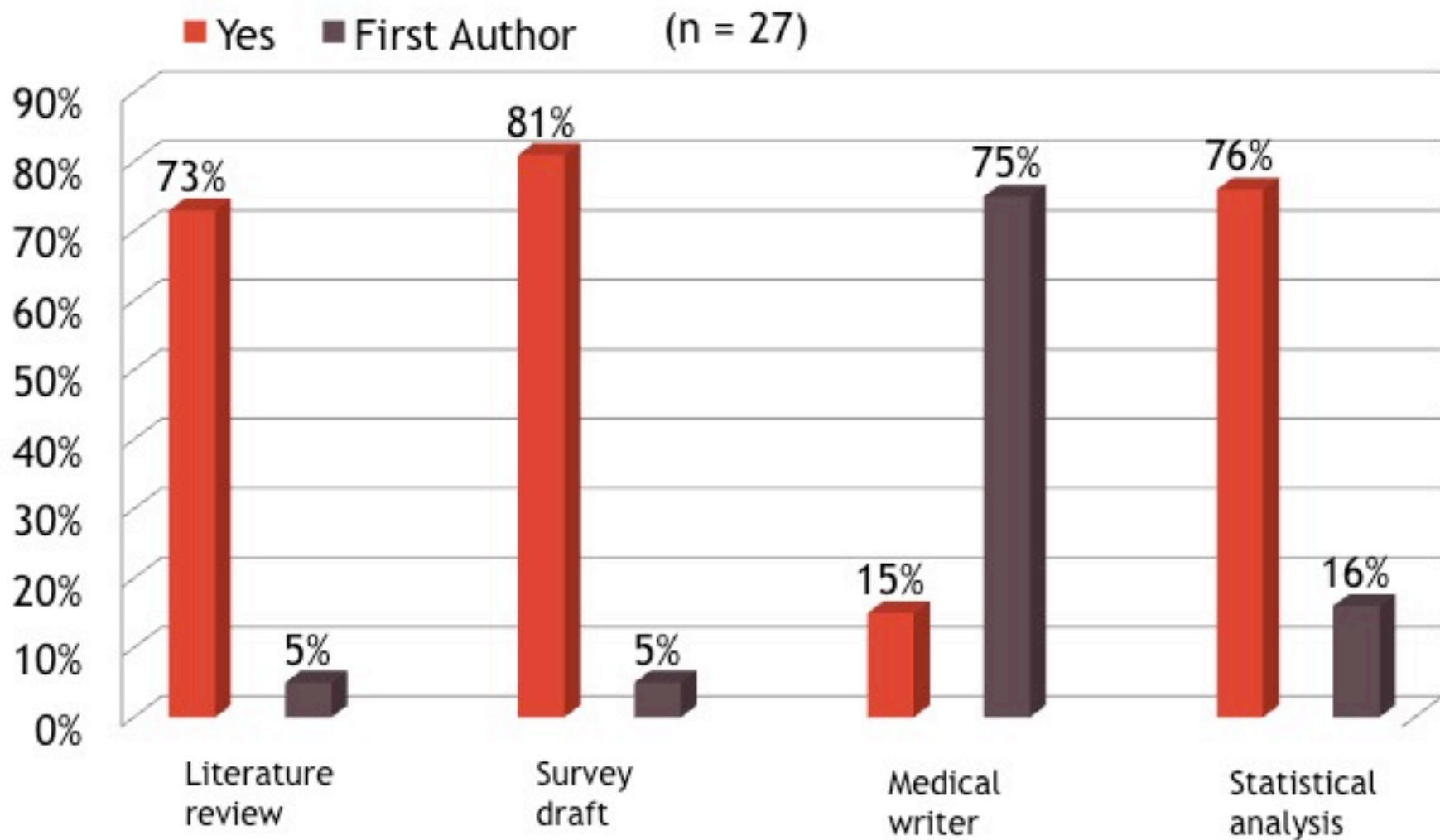
Survey Vignettes

- Drafts lit review; some sentences used in final manuscript
- Research assistant for new project → develops 1st draft of survey → graduates before data collection complete
- Medical writer → 1st draft of manuscript
- Research assistant → stat analyses → makes some recommendations and meets with PI re additional analyses

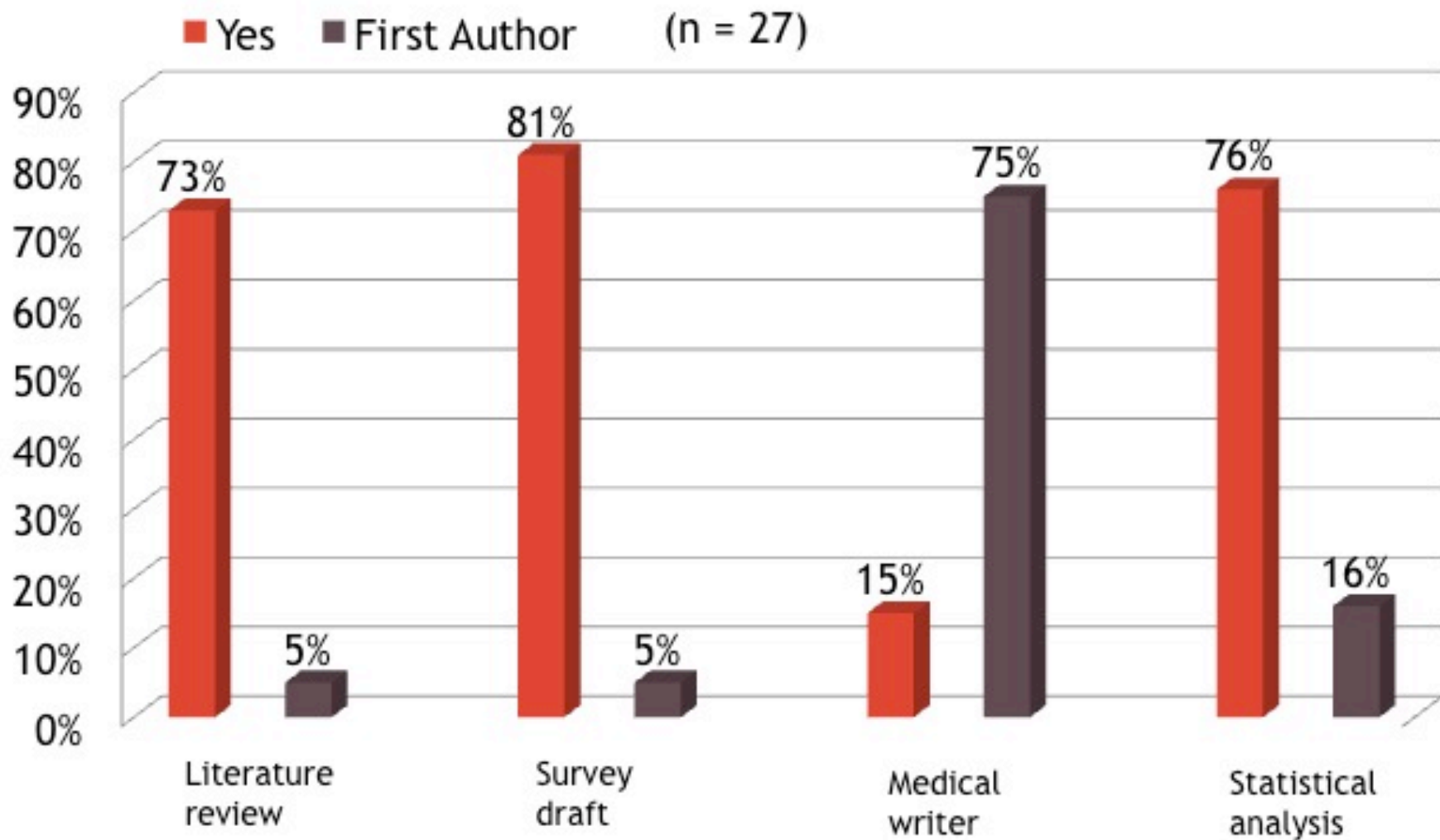
Beliefs about Authorship and First Authorship: Four Vignettes



Beliefs about Authorship and First Authorship: Four Vignettes



Beliefs about Authorship and First Authorship: Four Vignettes



Authorship (Bottom Line . . .)

- “Authorship credit should be based on the following:
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 3. Final approval of the version to be published

- Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3.”

- Most importantly—**discuss ahead of time**