



AMERICAN BRAIN FOUNDATION
 Governance Committee
 March 8, 2021
 9:00am CST
 Video Call

Attendees:	Shafali Jeste, MD, Chair; Susan Schneider Williams, BFA; Kevin Goodno; David Dodick, MD; Mary Post
Excused:	Frances Jensen, MD; Alyx Porter, MD
Staff	Jane Ransom, ED; Mary Post, CEO; Kim Howard

	AGENDA ITEM <i>*Indicates Board Action Needed</i>	PRESENTED BY
9:00	Call to Order and Introductions	Shafali Jeste, MD, Chair
9:05	Approval of the December 21, 2020 Minutes and January 25, 2021 Notes	Shafali Jeste
9:07	Board Composition Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What gaps do we most need to fill? 	Jane Ransom
9:20	Board Recruitment – Next Steps	Jane Ransom
9:30	Meeting adjourn	Shafali Jeste, MD, Chair

Other Materials:

- Draft Meeting Minutes of December 21, 2020 – page 2
- Draft Meeting Notes of January 25, 2021 – page 5
- ABF Board Composition Survey Results – page 7



**American Brain Foundation
Governance Committee Meeting
December 21, 2020
9:00 a.m. CT
Video Conference Call**

In attendance: Kevin Goodno, Chair; Susan Schneider Williams, BFA; Frances Jensen, MD
Staff: Jane Ransom, ED; Kim Howard

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. CT by Kevin Goodno, Chair.

The minutes of September 21, 2020 were approved unanimously.

Board Recruitment Update (Jane Ransom)

Public Candidate List

- **JoAnne Berger Sweeney** - Dr. Jensen and Jane Ransom have spoken with Ms. Sweeney. She is interested in the foundation, but she is over-committed right now. She would consider joining the board in a year or two. She would be happy to come to a future board meeting to discuss her experiences as a neuroscientist and college president, and the needs she sees around diversity and advocacy. She is an interested prospect that we will continue to nurture.
- **Sanjay Gupta** - We plan to give him his award first at Commitment to Cures and then reach out to him.
- **Mayim Bialik** – Waiting to hear back from Mr. Eagleman, he was going to reach out to Ms. Bialik and we have not had an update.
- **Susan Sarofim** – She is still very interested but not until 2022.
- **Dr. Keith Black** – Dr. Dock has sent multiple messages and has still not heard back from him.

New people mentioned for consideration include Jeff Bezos ex-wife MacKenzie Scott and Mark Zuckerberg's wife Priscilla Chan.

Neurologist Candidate List

- **Dr. Merit Cudkowicz & Dr. John Morris** - We are not actively recruiting them but wanted to note they will be coming off the Research Advisory Committee at the end of this year. They have been top contributors to the RAC so rather than lose them we might want to consider one or both joining the Board.

- **Alyx Porter** – Dr. Porter was the first African American female neuro-oncologist in the US. She is a former student of Dr. Dodick's and she works at the Mayo Clinic. Ms. Porter

also directs a non-profit, called Elevate MD, that medical students of color with scholarships. She would be a great addition to the board and has already agreed to be on the board on a recent call with Dr. Dodick. Dr. Jensen mentioned Dr. Porter's background fits perfectly with our efforts and pursuits around glioblastoma.

MOTION: Recommendation be made to the Board to add Dr. Alyx Porter effective January 1, 2021 via email vote to replace Sharon Klein. Motion approved unanimously.

Mr. Goodno noted that when Dr. Sirven departs in April we will want to replace him with a public candidate since Dr. Porter was a neurologist candidate. We do not have to fill them right away; we can take our time and make sure we get the right candidates.

Research Advisory Committee Update (David Dodick, MD) As a result of two special Research Strategy meetings, there is agreement on the following:

The Research Advisory Committee will make recommendations to the Board regarding research priorities of the ABF, including which research projects that should be funded by the Foundation. Collaborating and aligning with the research program of the AAN is a priority. Focused activities will include the following:

- Expand ABF's portfolio of training scholarships for early career researchers
- Recommend special research funding initiatives related to specific diseases or disease areas
- Develop programs that advance research in health disparities
- Collaborate with AAN's Science Committee

Nothing has changed related to membership and terms. Mr. Goodno confirmed that the Board Chair has the authority to appoint the Chair and members of the RAC.

Research Advisory Committee Appointments (Jane Ransom) Three members of the RAC have agreed to renew for a second term beginning January 1, 2021:

- Phyllis Zee, MD
- Jose Cavazos, MD
- James Grotta, MD

Six of our RAC members are term limiting out at the end of 2021. The committee discussed adding six people to the RAC for terms beginning 1/1/21 to prepare for those departures. It was suggested to have more members of the Board be on the RAC. There was some concern about such a large group until Ms. Ransom suggested creating sub-committees to address each area of the focused activities defined above. We need diversity in expertise (specialty) and we also need more women. To achieve more diversity, we can consider future candidates that are more mid-career.

The Governance Committee recommended seven appointments to the RAC to Board Chair David Dodick, to begin their terms on 1/1/21:

- Bruce Ovbiagele, MD, MAS

- Na Tosha N. Gatson, MD, PhD
- Gordon Smith, MD, PhD
- Jacqueline French, MD
- Jose Biller, MD
- Ronald Petersen, PhD, MD
- Reisa Sperling, MD

2021 Governance Committee Chair, Shafali Jeste (David Dodick, MD) Dr. Shafali Jeste has agreed to become the Governance Chair for 2021.

The Governance Committee thanked Kevin Goodno for his leadership of the Governance Committee for the last six years, crediting him with building up the great board we have now.

Meeting Adjourned 9:42 a.m. CT

DRAFT



**American Brain Foundation
Governance Committee Meeting Notes
January 25, 2021
9:00 a.m. CT
Video Conference Call**

In attendance: Shafali Jeste, MD, Chair; Kevin Goodno; Mary Post, CEO; David Dodick, MD
Absent: Susan Schneider Williams, BFA; Frances Jensen, MD
Staff: Jane Ransom, ED; Kim Howard

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. CT by Shafali Jeste, MD, Chair

The minutes of December 21, 2020 were not approved because there was not a quorum. These will be approved at the next meeting on March 8, 2021.

Ms. Ransom reviewed the goals for 2021 and they included:

1. Recruiting 4 new board members for terms beginning January 1, 2022; 3 non-neurologists and 1 neurologist.
2. Renew board members that are up for their 2nd and 3rd terms.
3. Develop an Officers Slate for 2022 to recommend to the Board.
4. Decide if an Advisory or Alumni Council should be established to help keep past board members and others involved beyond their terms and make a recommendation to the Board if appropriate.

The items above need to be ready to be voted on by the Board at the August 6, October 16 or November 19 meeting. 2 years ago, the Officers were elected in August, so that the incoming officers would know well in advance of their terms.

Dr. Jeste said the key will be to think strategically about what kinds of roles we would like filled on the board, especially the non-neurologists' openings because they have been very influential on our current board.

The Board Composition Matrix that has been used in the past was reviewed and discussed. The group decided we should have the current board complete this survey. This information can be gathered and then used as a road map. The Governance Committee should be focused on what our priorities are, geographical, connections, skills, demographics, etc.

Mary Post offered a recommendation for an additional public candidate, the CFO for the Barack Obama Foundation. He is African American; he is strong in financial planning management and organizational management, and also has great inter-personal skills. Ms. Post was not sure about his connections and ability to raise funds.

Ms. Ransom reviewed the full candidate list that was included in the meeting materials as well as the short list created by this committee last year. This full candidate list came from a survey of the ABF Board, AAN Board, ABF Staff, AAN Executive Staff, ABF RAC and the AAN Science

Committee in 2020. Dr. Jeste said we do not necessarily need a bigger list we probably need to vet this current list.

Dr. Dodick mentioned that Melanie Walton does not have huge star power, but she could do a lot for the Foundation with her monetary support. We need people engaged and doing the work of the Foundation and we also need people like Cindy McCain to draw more attention.

Ms. Ransom mentioned that we can talk to several people at the same time, to gage their interest in serving, without offering them the position. Then when we can determine people's interest and look at who best fits our needs.

Dr. Dodick suggested we do another survey to get more names and then work on narrowing it down to a short list. Dr. Jeste said we should give good guidance related to what we are looking so that we are gathering the right information; Jane will send her the survey to review.

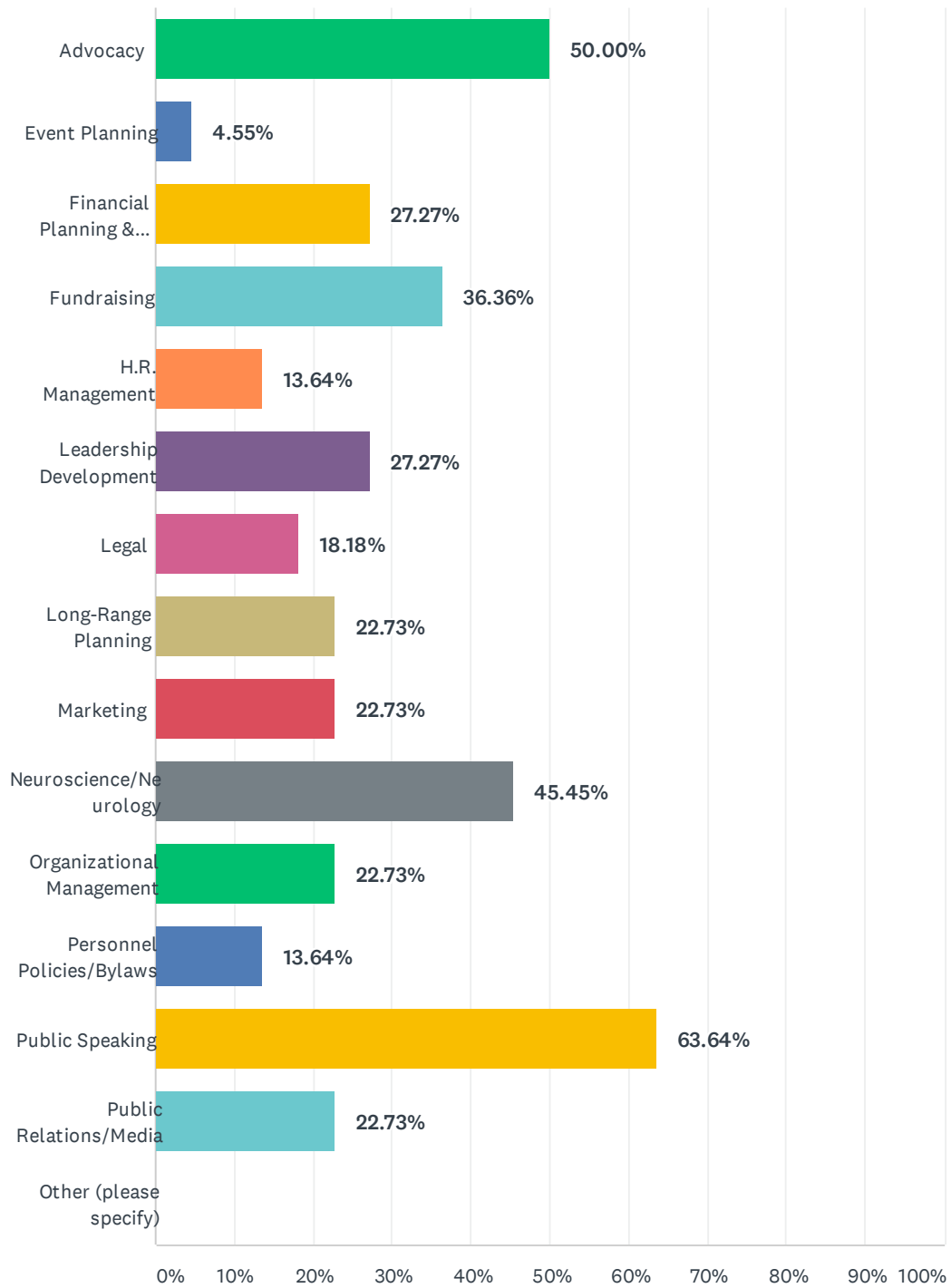
Ms. Ransom shared the ABF Board Officer Leadership Survey which will be used to help create the slate of Officers.

Meeting Adjourned 9:27 a.m. CT

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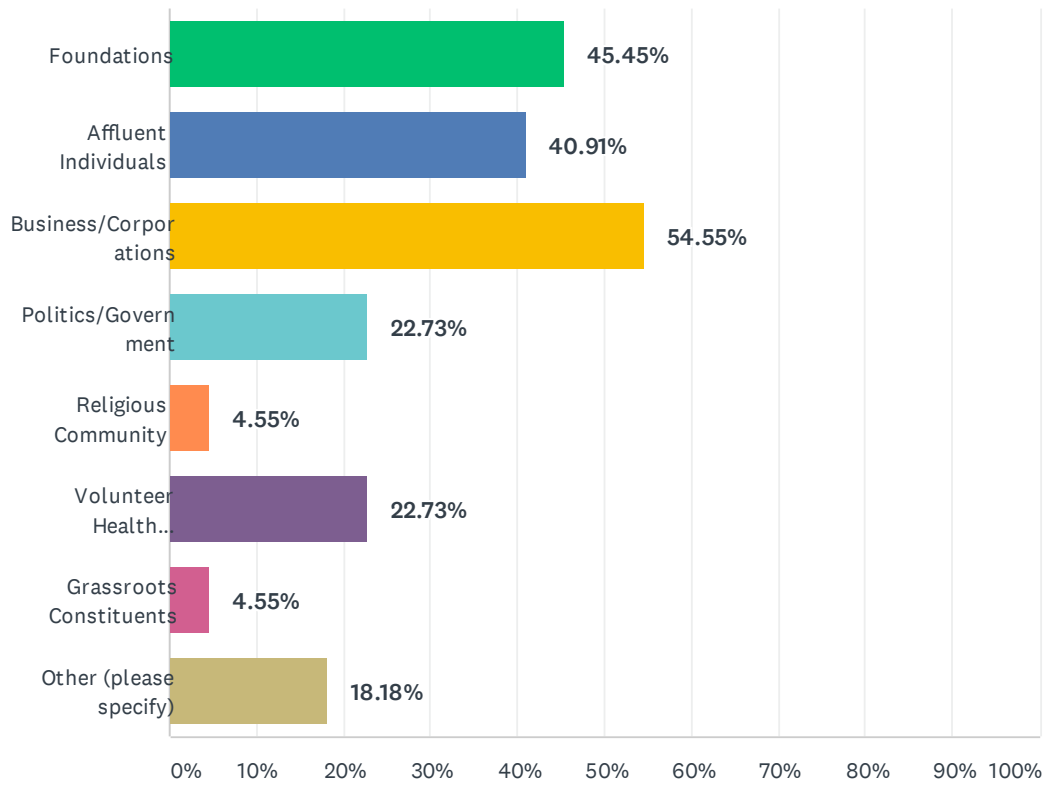
Q1 What skills/experience/expertise do you bring to the Board?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0



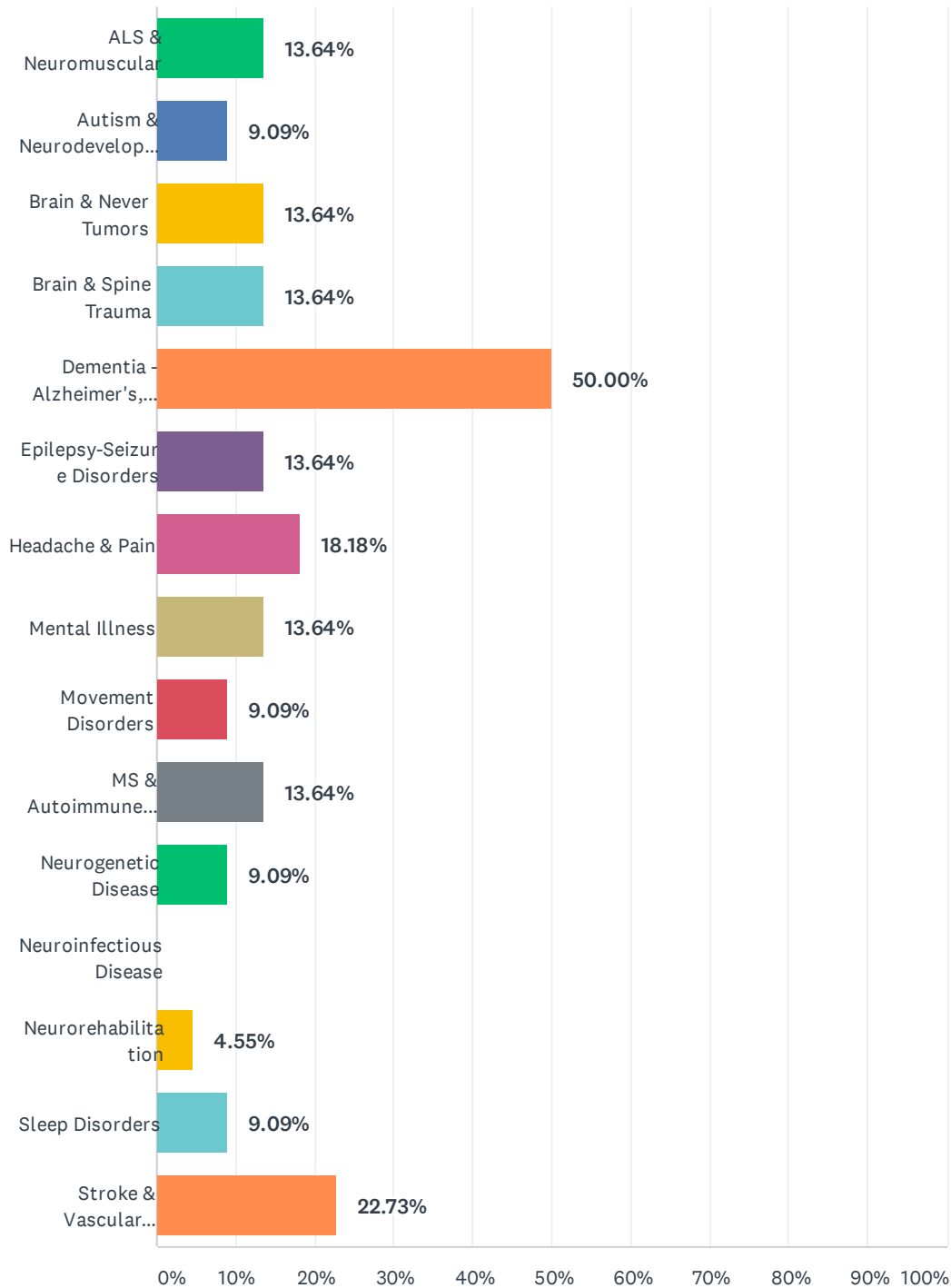
Q2 Which groups are you associated with and willing to introduce to the Foundation?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0



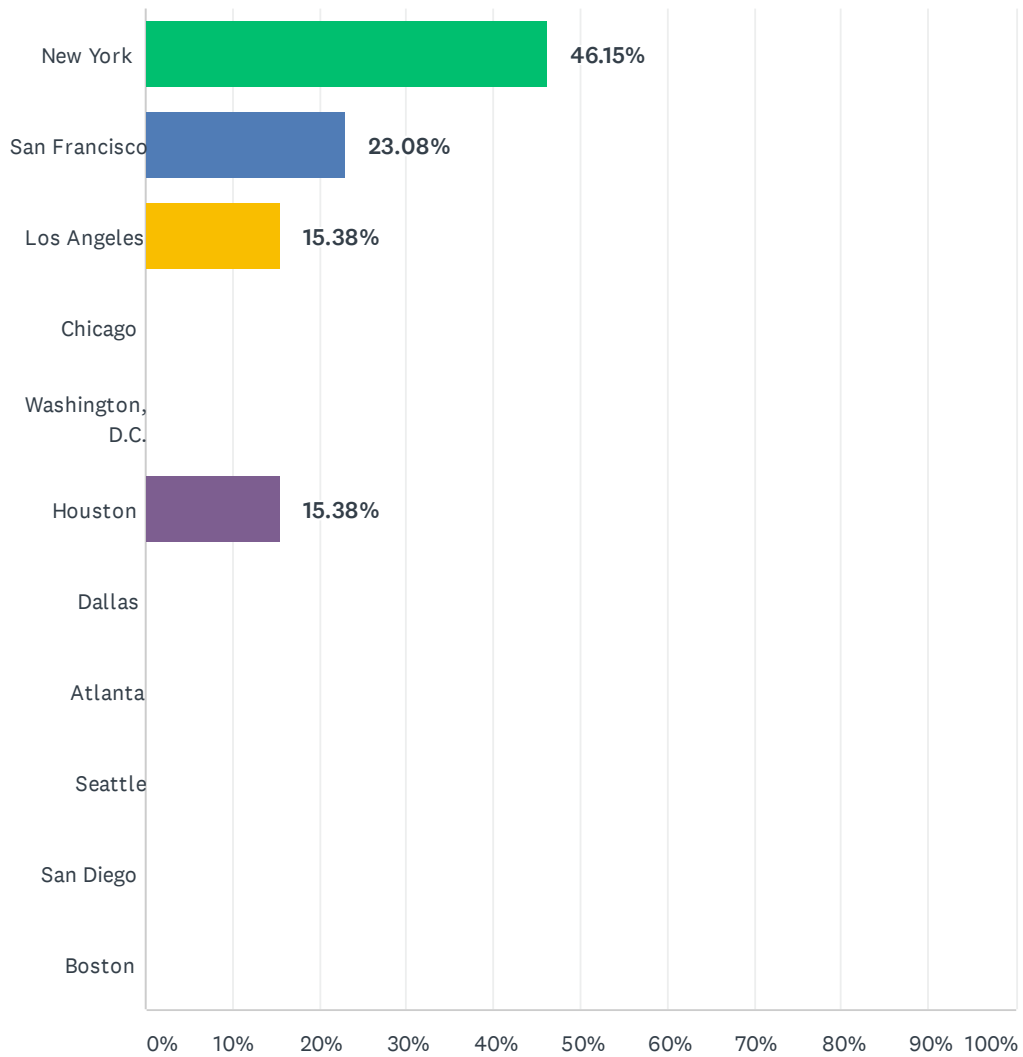
Q3 With which of the following categories of brain disease do you identify most, either as a neurologist with expertise or as an affected layperson and advocate?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0



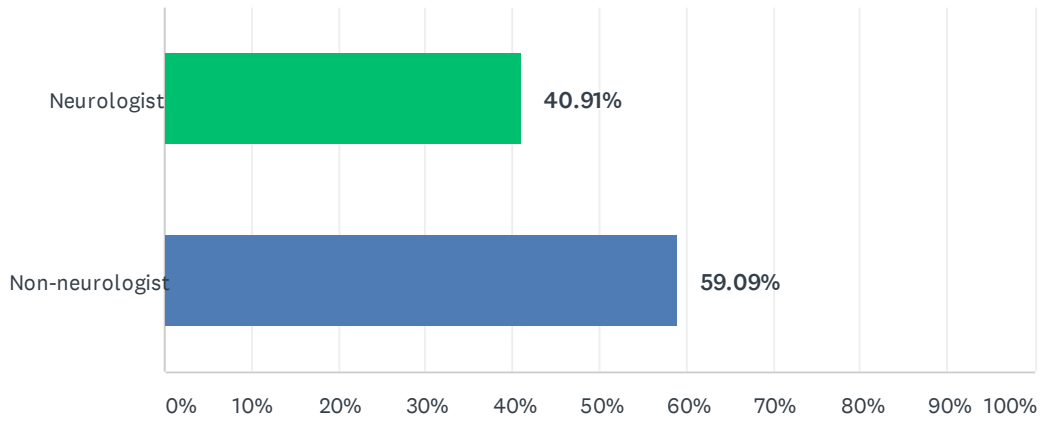
Q4 If you live or work in one of the following metropolitan areas.

Answered: 13 Skipped: 9



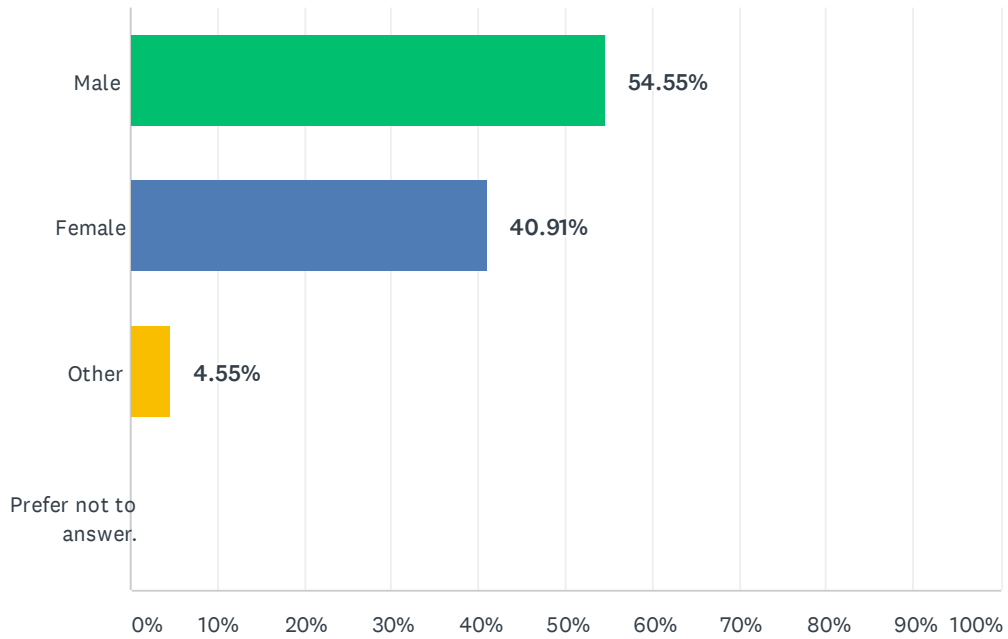
Q5 Are you a neurologist or a non-neurologist?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0

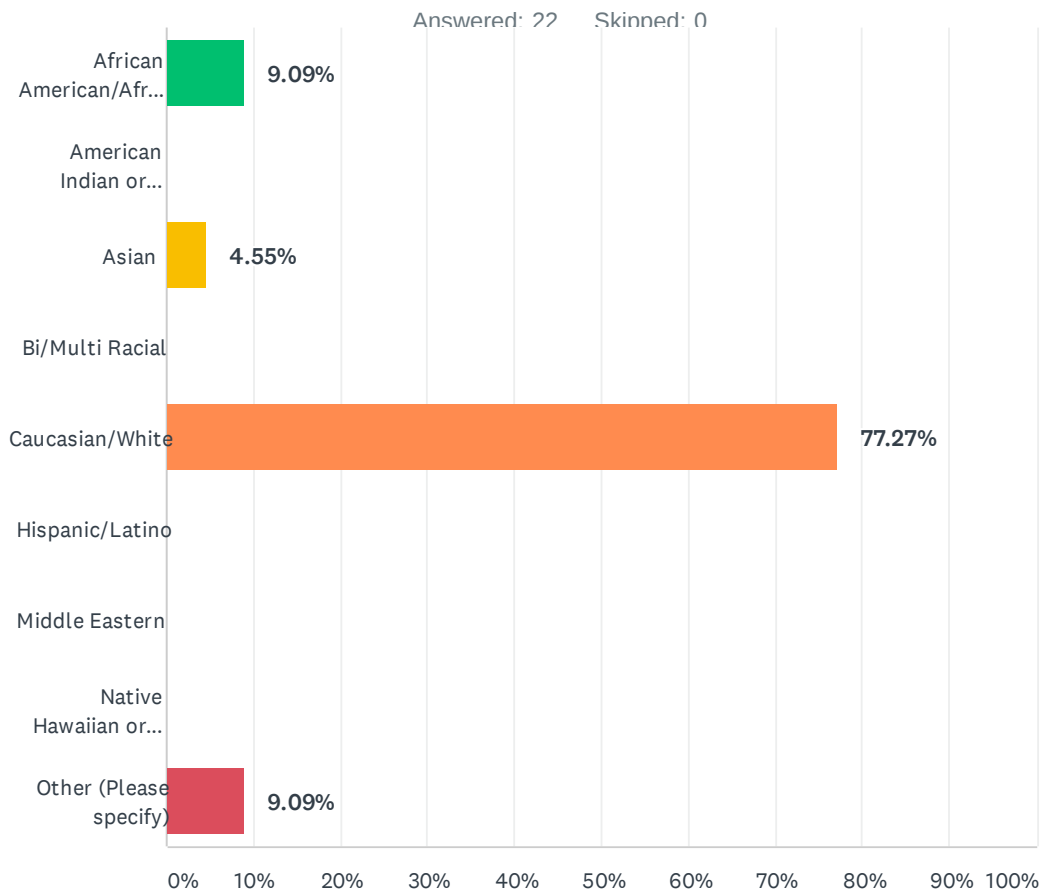


Q6 What is your gender?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0



Q7 Which of the following best represents your racial or ethnic heritage?



Q8 In which age range are you?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0

