

Physicians are the professionals who most expressively contributed in Cochrane reviews as the first author in the six analysed Cochrane Groups.

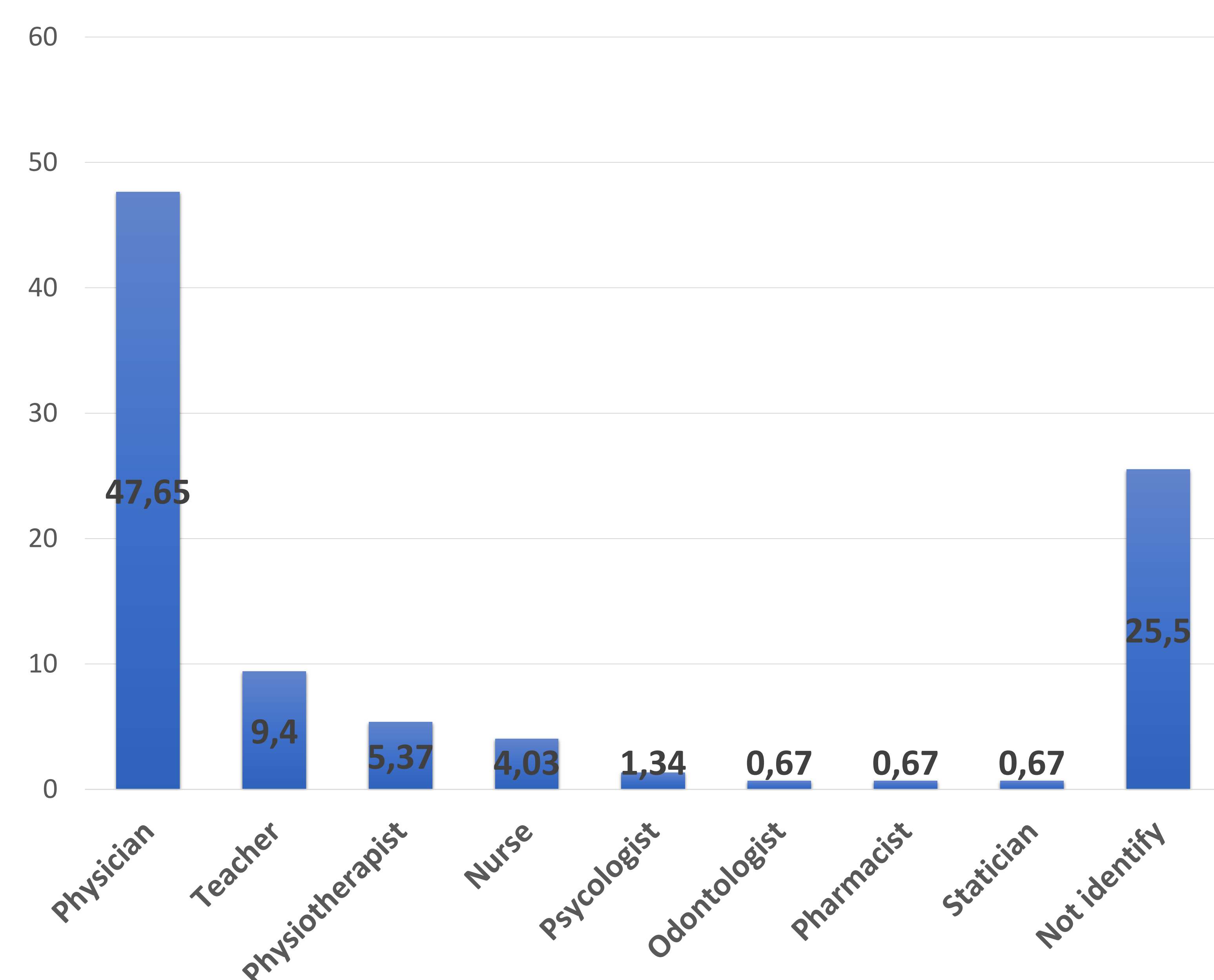
We believe that diversity of professional backgrounds within the research scenario is important to improve the quality of the process of research making, and consequently the quality of clinical and policy guidelines.

Background and Methods

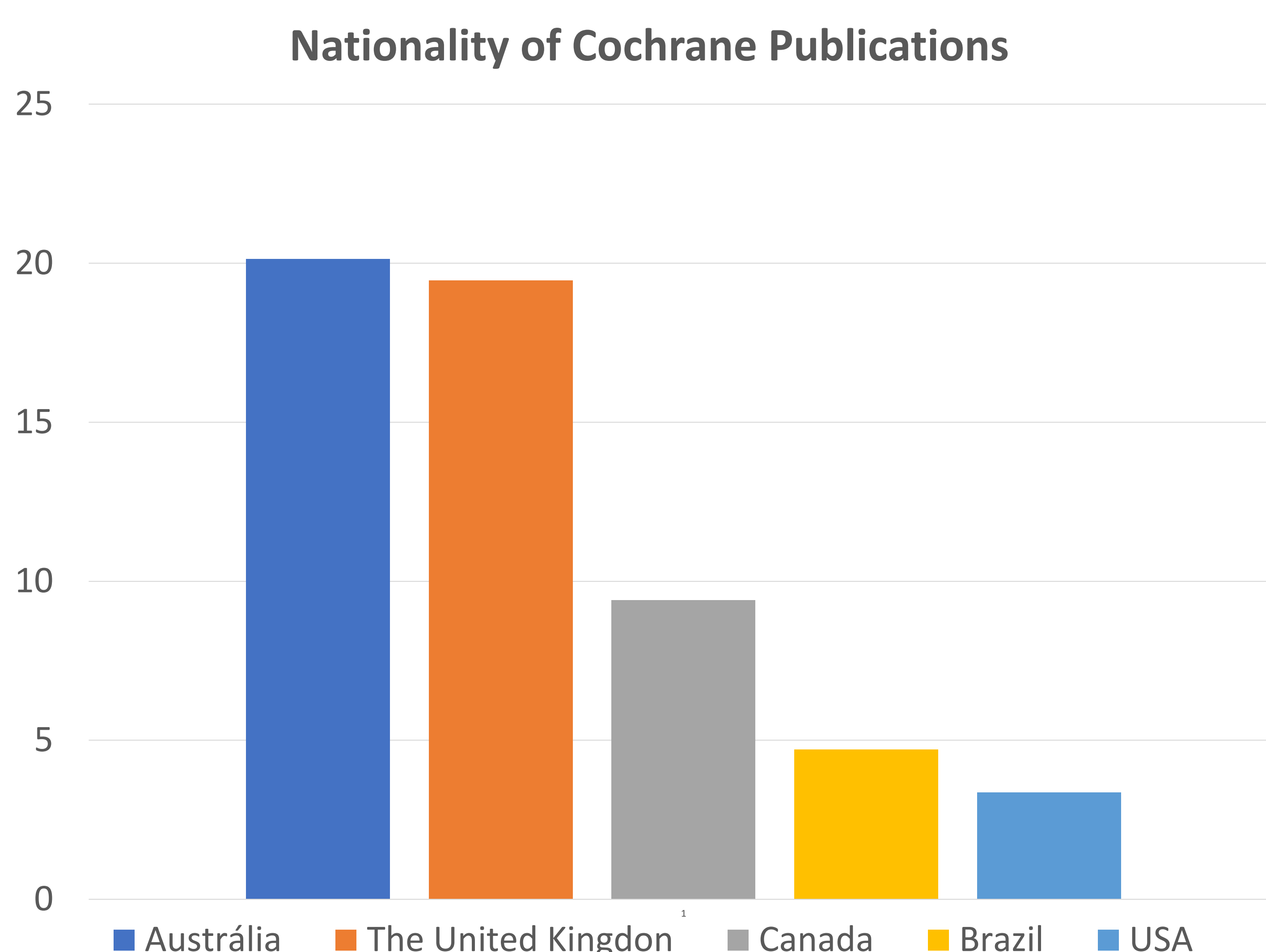
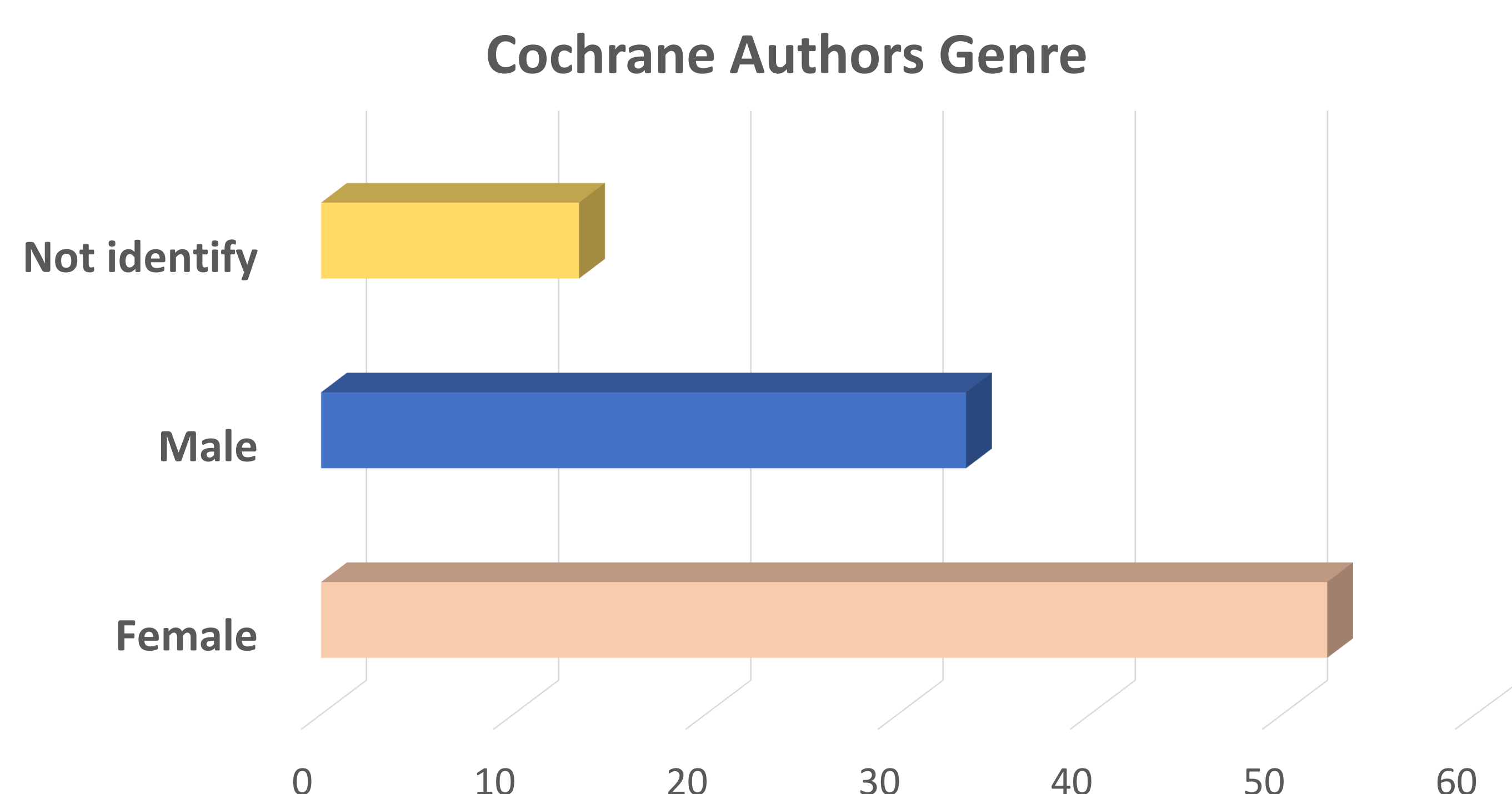
Cochrane methodology is the gold standard for systematic reviews, providing healthcare professionals, stakeholders and patients with a firm foundation for decision-making.

Our objective is identify which professional class most collaborated as first authors of Cochrane Reviews in the last three years.

We searched the Cochrane Library for all systematic reviews published in the last three years (from 2017 to 2019). We primarily analysed the first six Cochrane groups (Acute Respiratory Infections; Airways; Anaesthesia; Back and Neck; Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma; and Breast Cancer) and identified the first listed authors' profession, gender and nationality, searching for their names on online platforms such as LinkedIn, ResearchGate, Google Scholar, Plataforma Lattes, Cochrane Library and webpages of institutions where authors are professionally linked. We classified the authors into **nine different professional categories**. We calculated percentage distribution for each category.



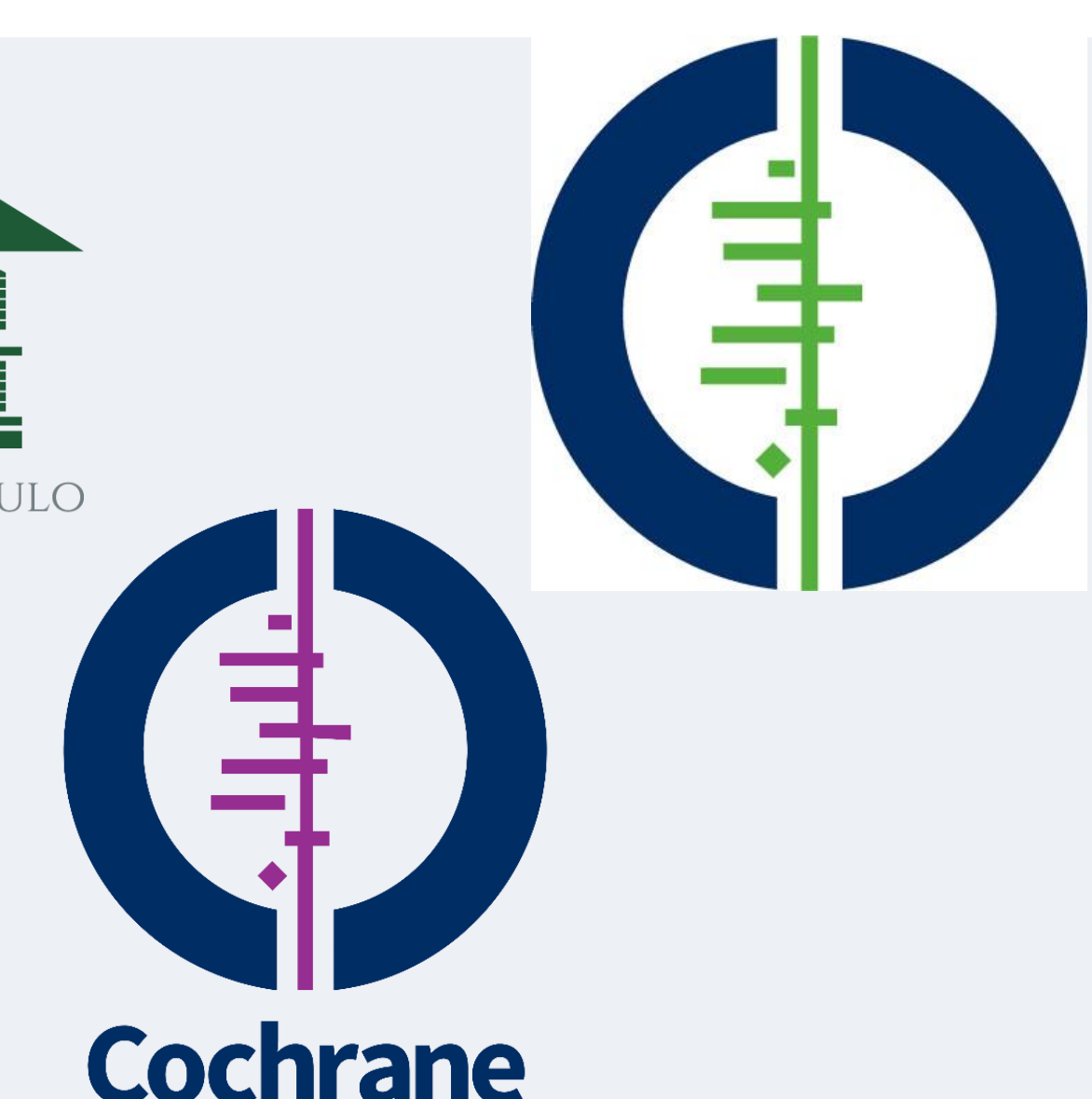
Key Results



Conclusion: Physicians are the professionals who most expressively contributed in Cochrane reviews. We also noted that women contribute the most. Australia and the United Kingdom, together, account for nearly half of the authorships. We hope to improve the awareness of the profile of Cochrane authors and with this information help to motivate more researchers to contribute towards the improvement of professional background diversity and, consequently, a greater variety of perspectives and the best healthcare evidence for the patients and consumers.

Profile of Cochrane Authors

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