

Sex discrimination in preclinical studies

There has been a revolution within clinical trials to include females in the research pipeline. However, there has been limited change in the preclinical arena; yet the research here lays the ground work for the subsequent clinical trials. Sex bias has been highlighted as one of the contributing factors to the poor translation and replicability issues undermining preclinical research. There have been multiple calls for action, and the funders of biomedical research are actively pushing the inclusion of sex as a biological variable. In this talk, we will explore the current standard practice, why there is a movement to include females and why the imbalance exists. Using organizational change theory, we will look at the strategies needed at an individual and institute level to change the status quo.