

# Advanced Practice Provider Utilization and Training



# Disclosure Statement

- I have no financial relationships to disclose.

# Learning Objectives

- Analyze the evolving role of Advanced Practice Providers (APPs) in otolaryngology and examine current workforce trends and challenges across clinical settings
- Identify key components of effective onboarding and training programs for APPs entering the field of otolaryngology.
- Discuss opportunities for professional development and role expansion for APPs within Otolaryngology.
- Evaluate strategies to optimize APP utilization to improve patient access, care quality, and team-based collaboration.

# Why is this Important

- Association of American Medical Colleges releases a Physician Dashboard
  - 2023 showed 10,178 Otolaryngologists practice in the United States
- U.S. Department of Health and Human services projected shortage of 1,620 Otolaryngologists by 2025

## Otolaryngology Workforce Projections in the United States, 2021–2036

Lorik Berisha  | Aman M. Patel  | Alan Nguyen | Roshan V. Patel  | Sapan M. Patel | Hassaam S. Choudhry | Rohini Bahethi | David W. Wassef  | Paul T. Cowan | Ghayoor S. Mir | Andrey Filimonov

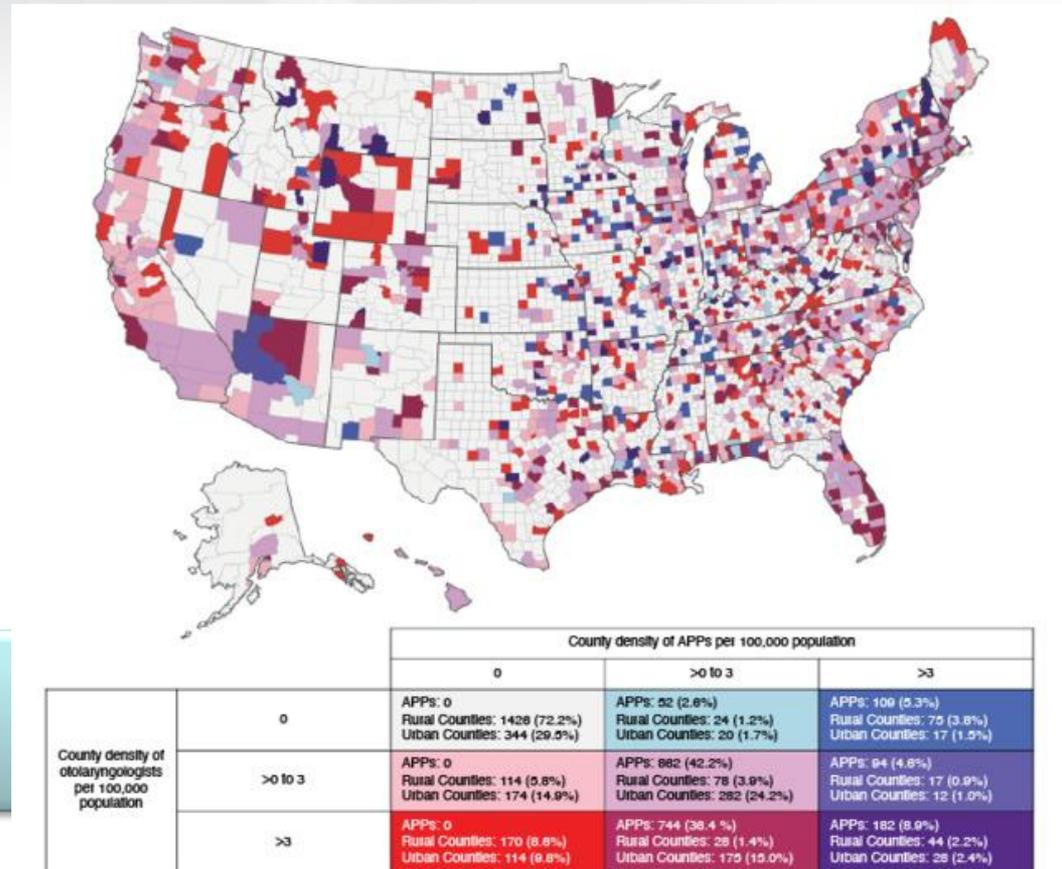
# Key factors contributing to shortage

Increasing number of aging patients

Higher physician attrition rates

Residency position caps limiting new physicians entering the field

Maldistribution of Otolaryngologists



# APPS

- Physician Assistants
    - Undergoing title change to Physician Associates
    - Most states require legal agreement with physician
    - Most states require co-signature of documentation for at least a period
  - Nurse Practitioners
    - Varying types of license which can come with practice restriction
    - Typical little to no co-signature requirements
- Must consider state and institutional guidelines when considering hiring an APP.**

# APPs

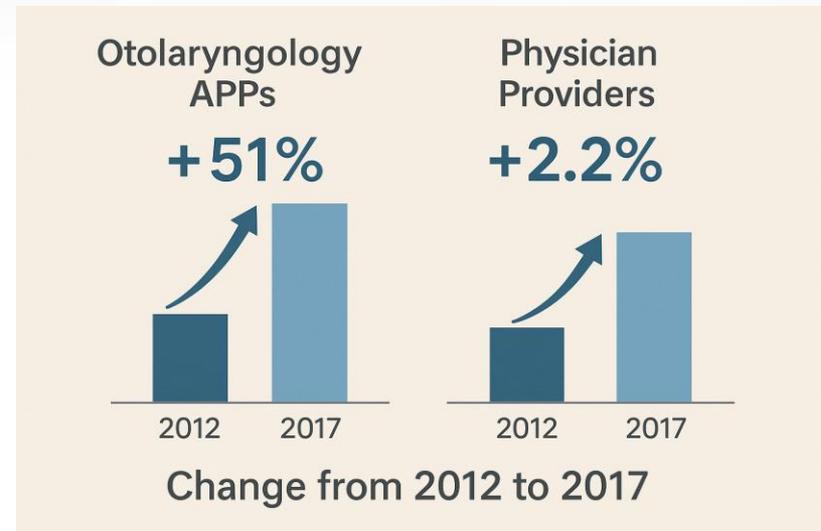
- In response to shortage, APPS have been recruited to Otolaryngology

## Reasons for Hiring APPs by Practice Type

	<i>Academic</i>	<i>Nonacademic Hospital</i>	<i>Private MSG</i>	<i>Private SSG</i>	<i>Solo Practice</i>	<b>Overall</b>
<i>Patient access</i>	84%	85%	89%	83%	78%	84%
<i>Improve productivity</i>	60%	61%	74%	73%	72%	66%
<i>Cover clinic while out of the office</i>	26%	48%	56%	52%	81%	41%

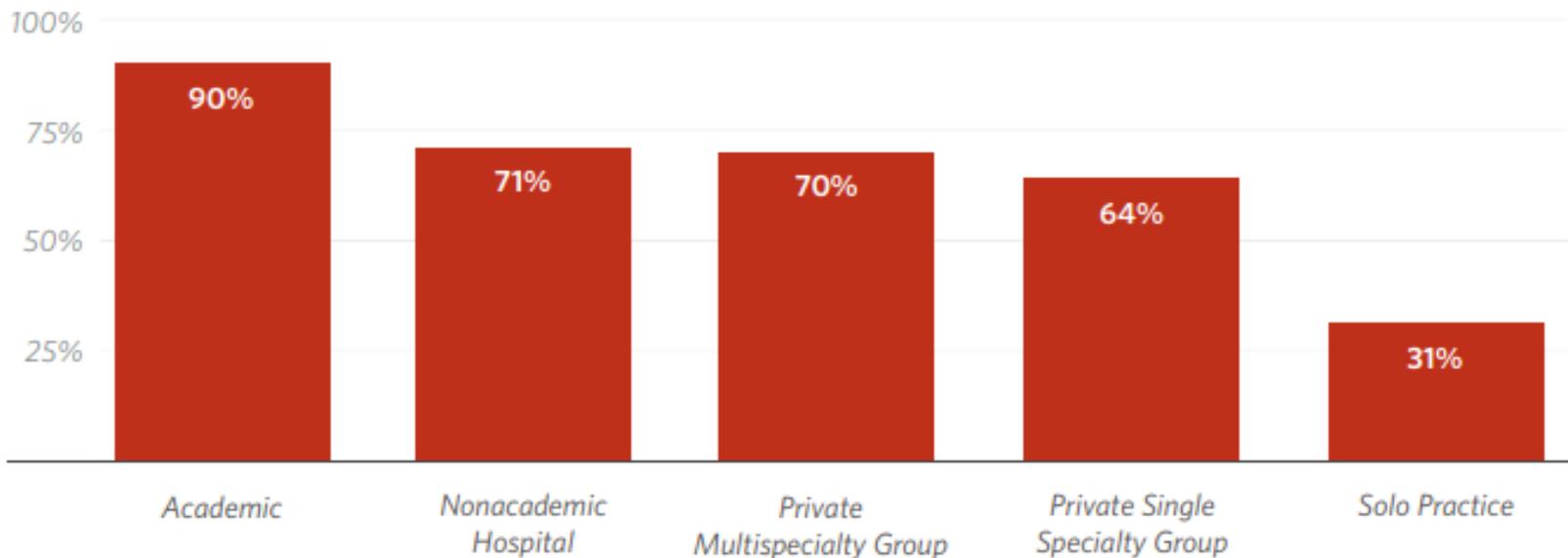
# APPS

- American Medical Association Physician Professional Data estimates 3,000 APPs practice in Otolaryngology
- As of 2023-National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants reported 1,376 PAs identified as working in Otolaryngology
- Difficult to find estimates of NPs



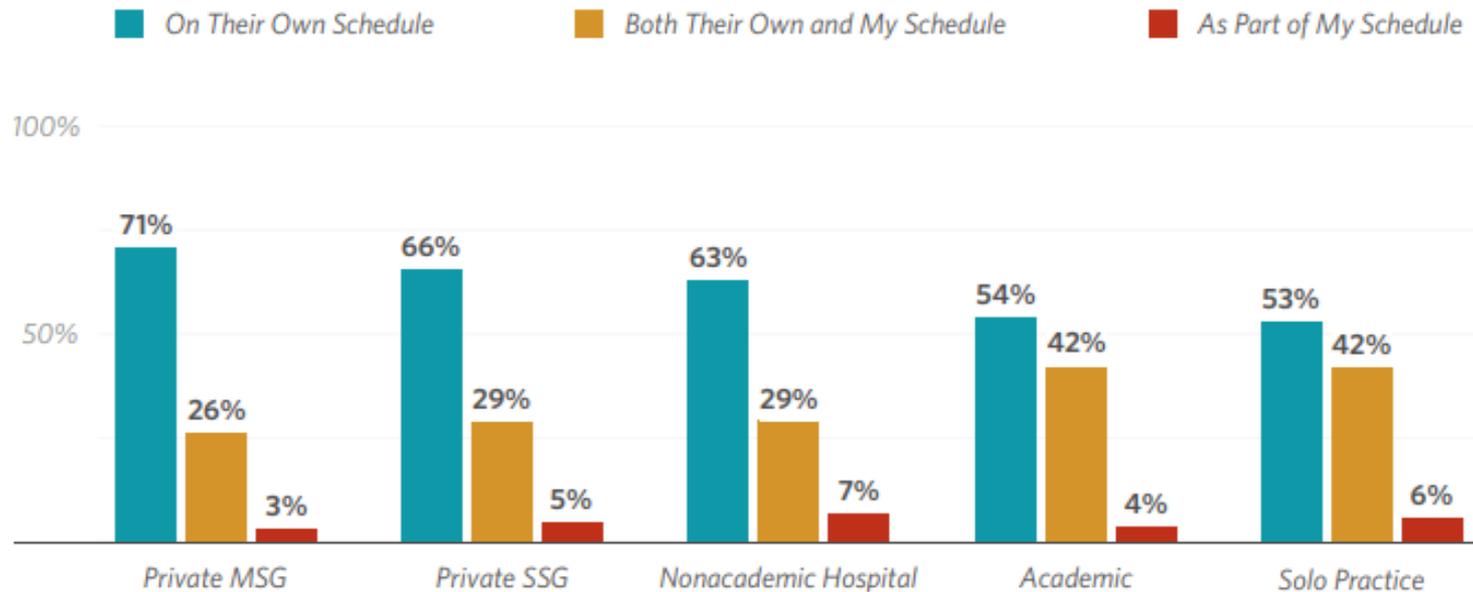
# APP Utilization

APP Use by Practice Type



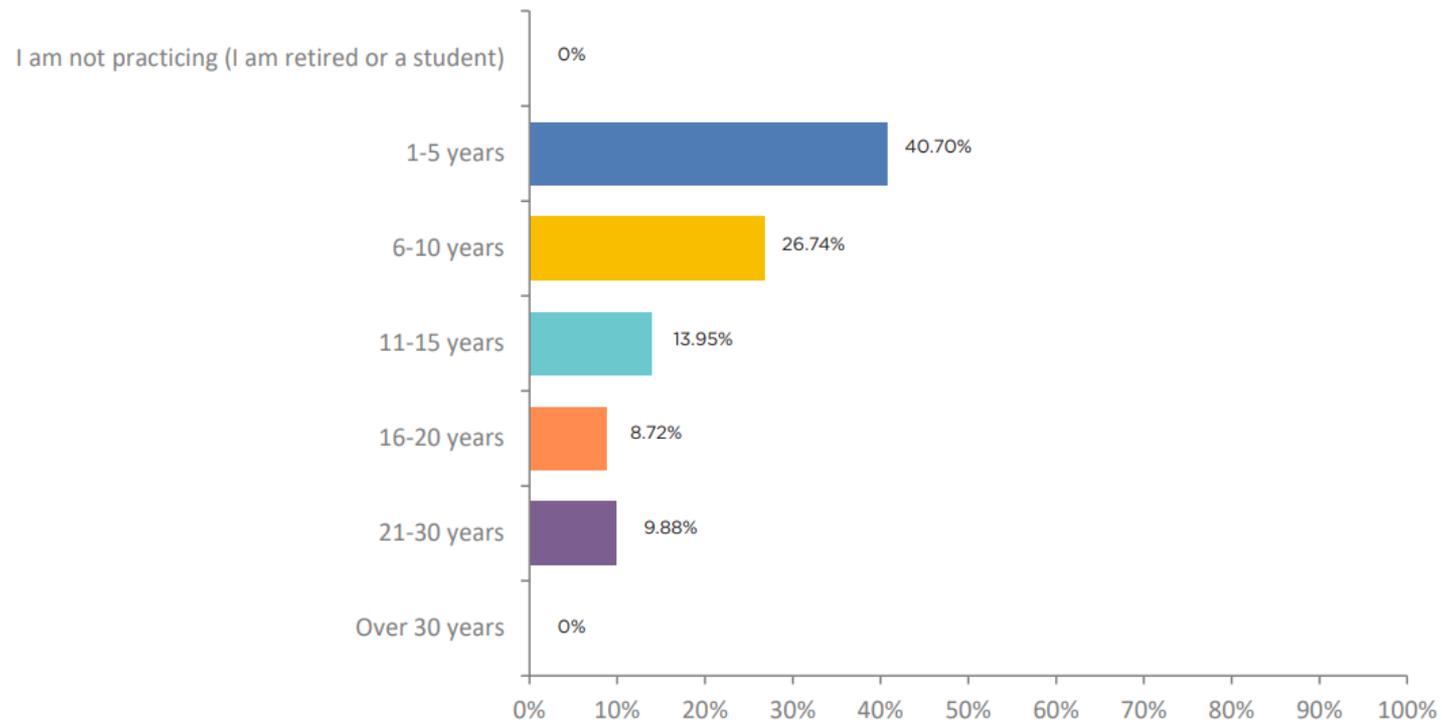
# APP Utilization

## How APPs See Patients by Practice Type



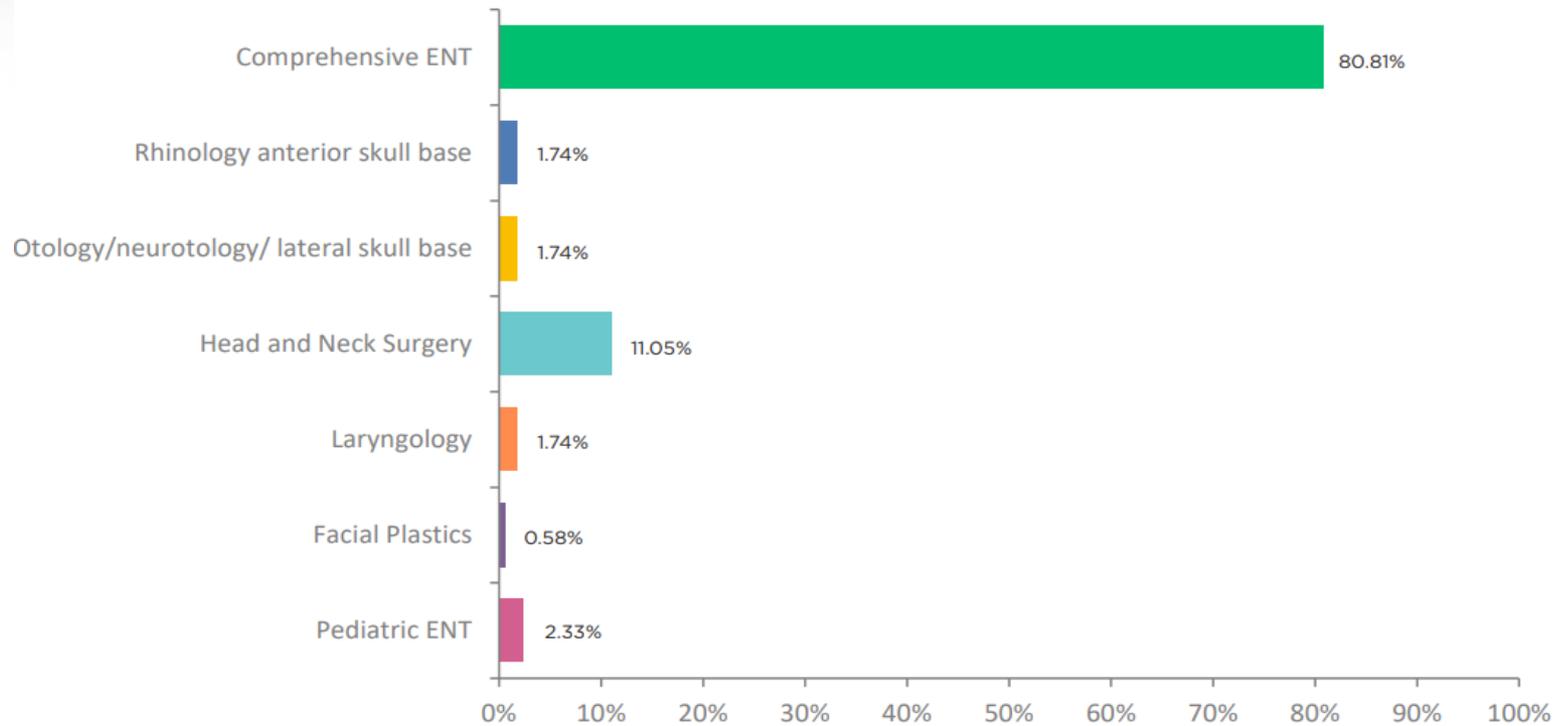
# APP Utilization

## How many years have you been in practice?



# APP Utilization

## What is your current practice focus?



# In-Office Procedures

Procedure Name	Academic	Nonacademic Hospital	Private MSG	Private SSG	Solo Practice	Overall
Cerumen Removal	94%	90%	96%	98%	100%	95%
Flexible Laryngoscopy	86%	84%	91%	92%	85%	88%
Nasal Endoscopy	76%	78%	90%	90%	85%	82%
Nasal Cautey	54%	71%	80%	80%	73%	67%
Wound/Drain Care	57%	61%	61%	42%	46%	53%
Sinus Debridements	22%	33%	39%	40%	35%	31%
Trans-Tympanic Injections	15%	16%	29%	21%	27%	19%
PTA I&D	9%	22%	33%	27%	23%	18%
Ear Tube Placement	13%	18%	28%	18%	19%	17%
Botox	10%	4%	14%	10%	19%	10%
Fillers	3%	2%	10%	6%	8%	5%
Frenotomy	4%	4%	-	-	4%	2%
Biopsies	2%	4%	5%	1%	4%	2%
Trach Care/Scope	1%	-	-	-	-	1%
Balloon Sinuplasty	-	-	-	1%	-	<1%
Epley Maneuver	-	-	-	-	4%	<1%
Foreign Body Removal	1%	-	-	-	-	<1%
Laser/Skin Care	-	-	1%	-	-	<1%
Septoplasty	-	-	-	1%	-	<1%
Ultrasound	1%	2%	-	-	-	<1%

# APP Training

- Post graduate Training programs
- AAO-HNSF Otolaryngology Core Curriculum
- On site training

Emerging:

-Society of Physician Assistants in  
Otorhinolaryngology Curriculum

# Post-graduate Training Programs

- Growing trend of APPs seeking subspecialized training
- The first fellowship program was developed in 2007 for primary care nurse practitioners
- There are now an estimated 513 in the United States
  - Emergency Medicine
  - Critical Care
  - Surgical Subspecialties
  - Pediatrics
  - Neonatalology
  - Oncology

# Post-graduate Training Programs

- Four Otolaryngology programs in the country currently
  - -Mayo Clinic
  - -Dartmouth
  - -Vanderbilt
  - -Hershey Medical Center
- National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants annual report in 2023
  - 43 PAs reported to complete Otolaryngology APP fellowship

# Post-graduate Training Programs

- Improve APP retention
  - Higher job satisfaction
  - Increased APP confidence in skills
  - Greater autonomy
- 
- Research gap on Post graduate training and impact on patient outcomes

# APP Otolaryngology Curriculums

- AAO-HNSF released the 2025 Core Curriculum
  - 100 Modules created for physicians, residents and APPs
  - APPS can create a customizable learning path from modules provided
  - Curriculum is geared more to physicians
- Society of Physician Assistants in Otorhinolaryngologists- working on releasing Training education pathway designed for APPs

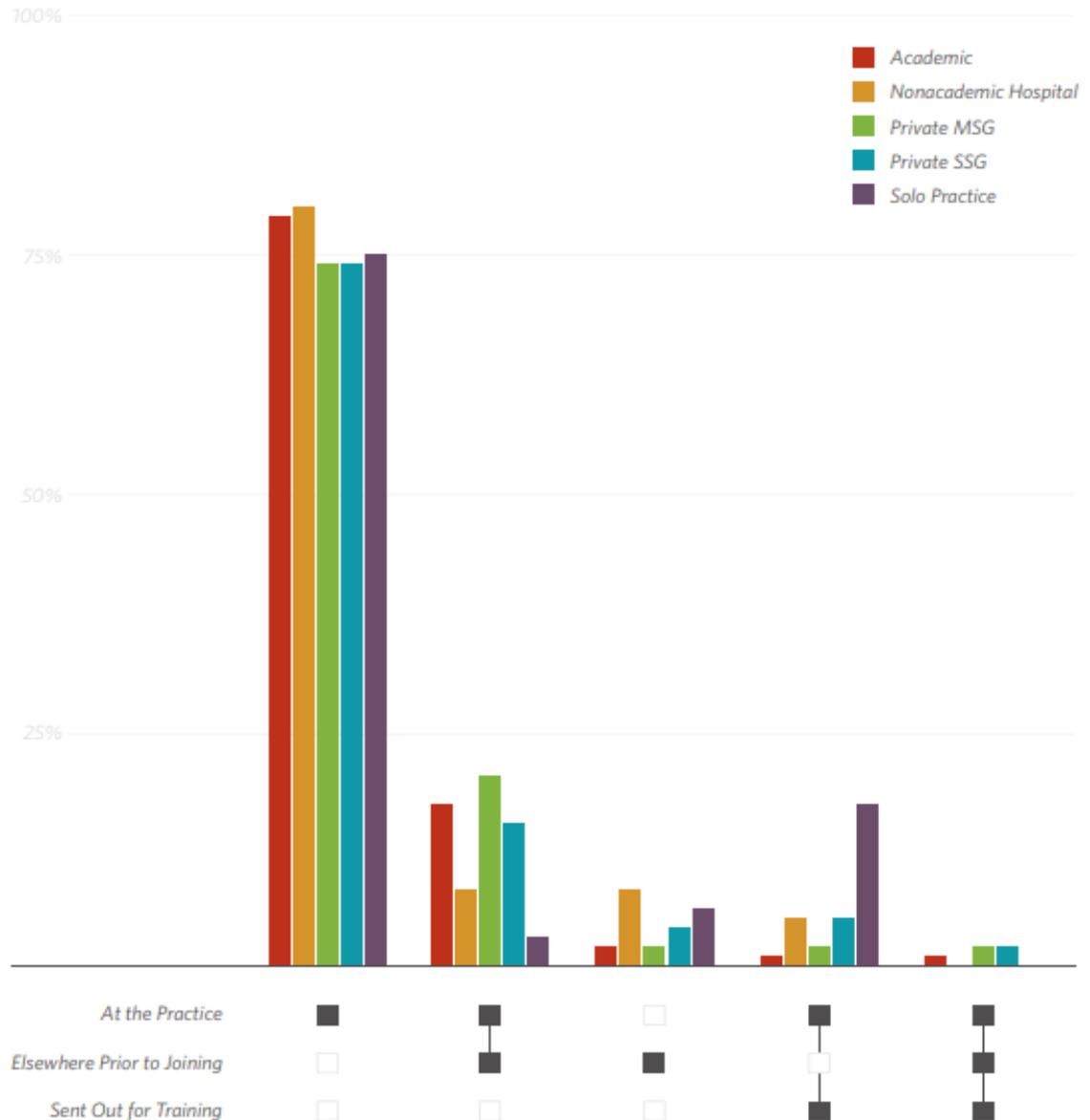
# ENT for the PA-C

- Procedural Skill Training
  - 2 days of hands-on procedural skill training
    - Intro and Advanced Flexible and Rigid Scoping
    - Intro and Advanced Otomicroscopy and ear procedures
    - Vestibular Testing
    - Epistaxis Management
    - Tracheostomy management
    - Head and Neck Ultrasonography
- Didactic Lectures 2.5 days by sponsored institution

# On-site Training

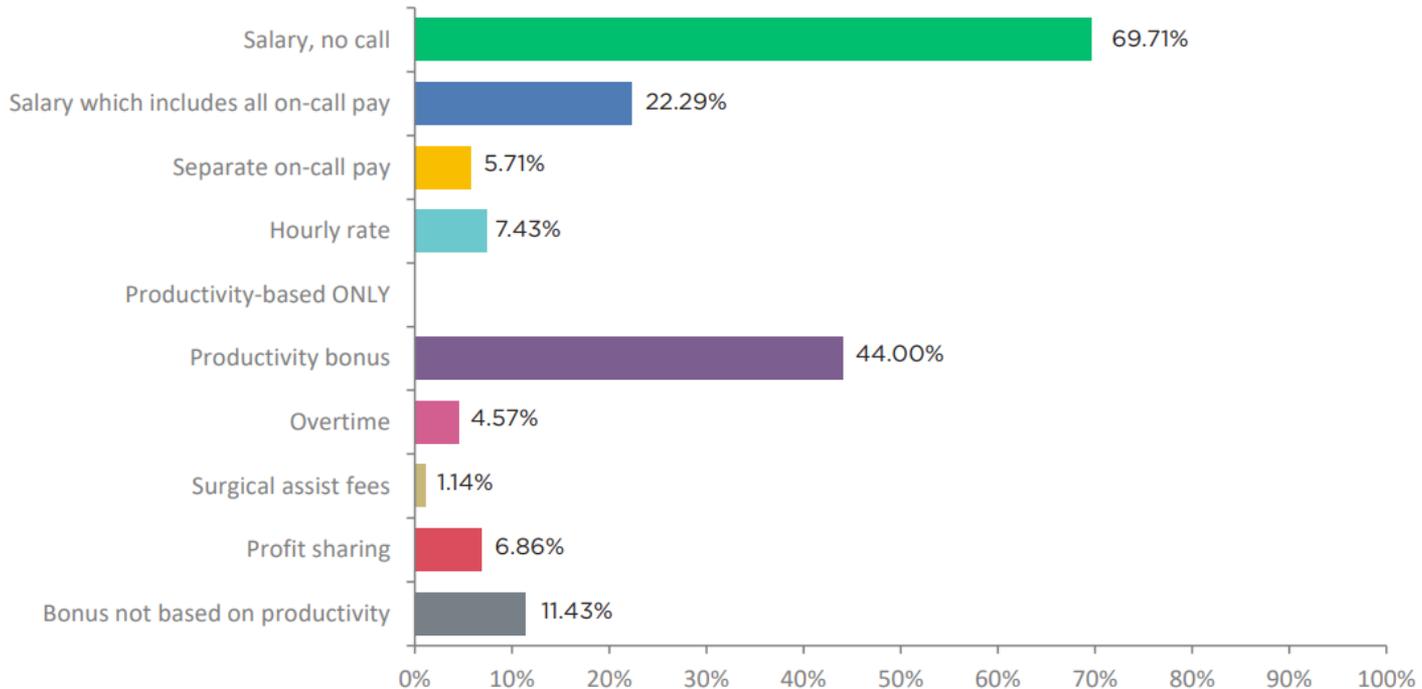
- 6-12 Month period for APPs to achieve competence in care

FIGURE 6.9:  
How APPs Are Trained by Practice Type



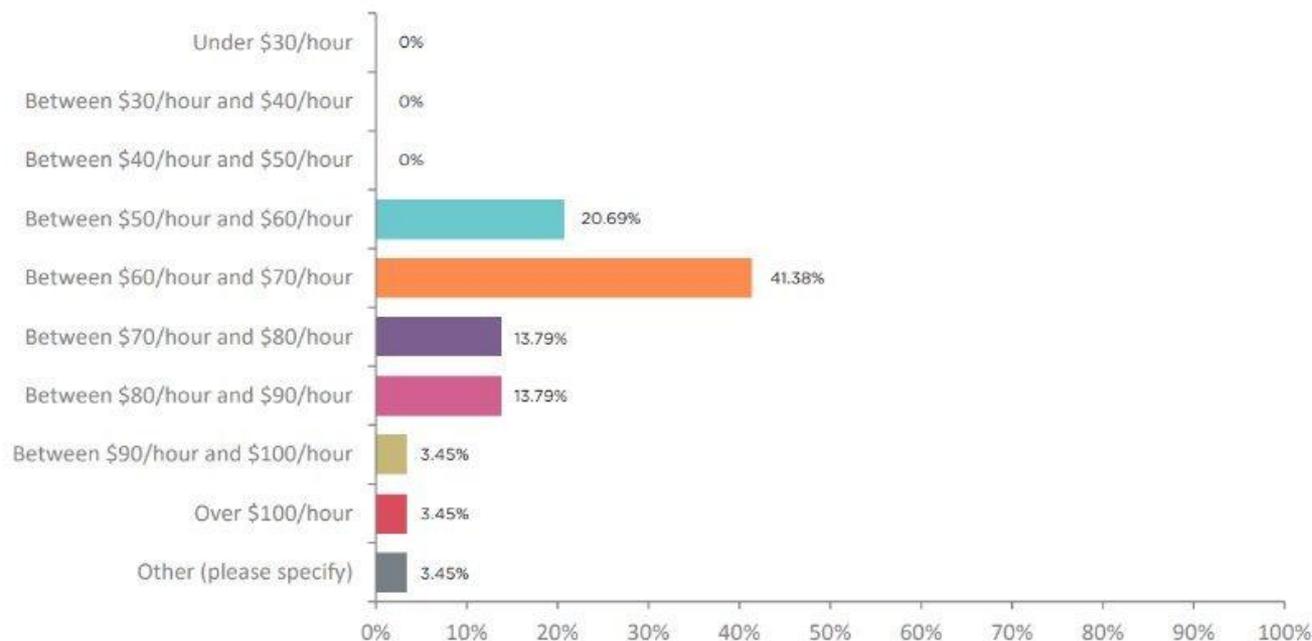
# Compensation

**How are you compensated?** (Check any that apply.)



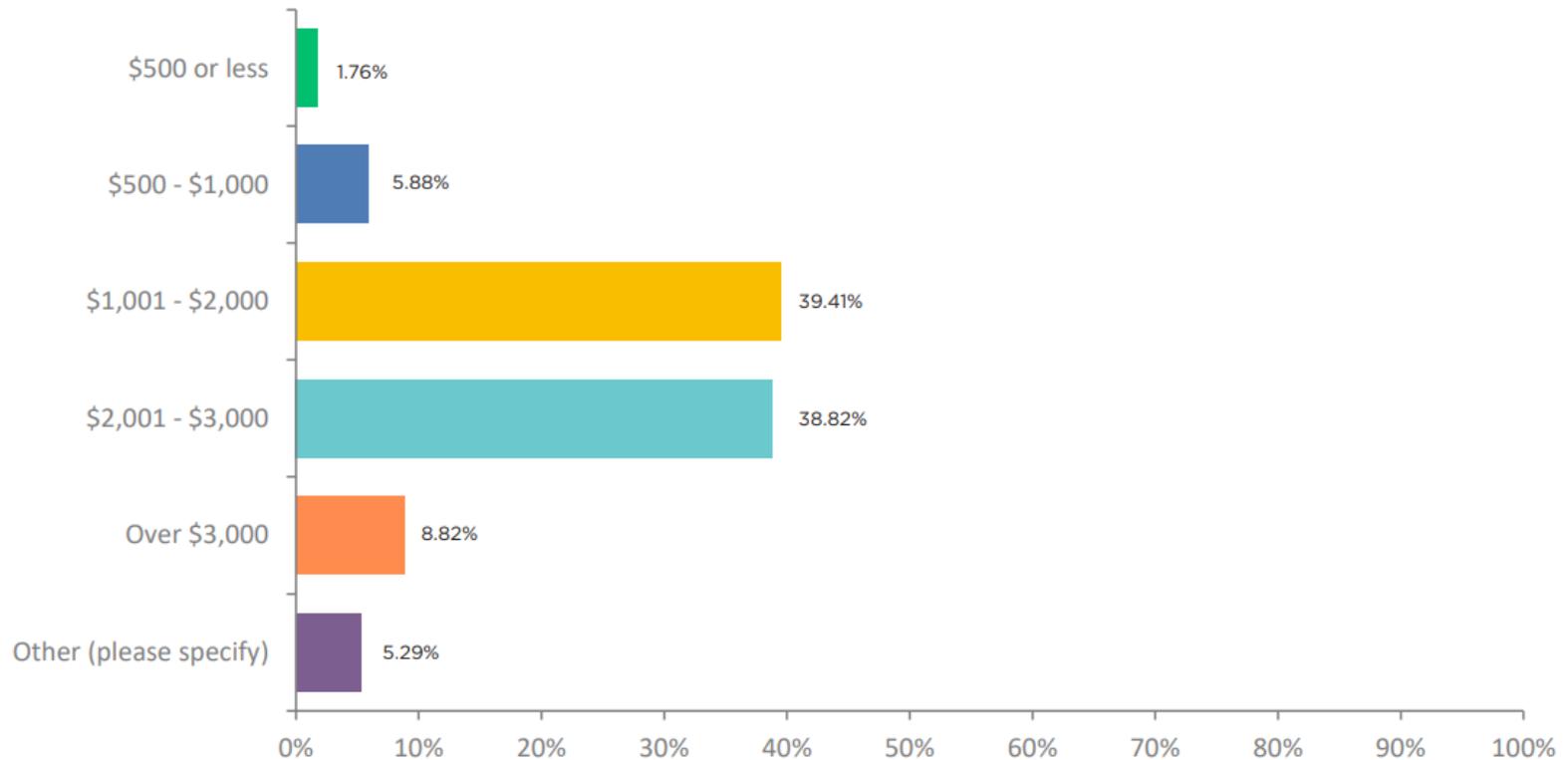
# Compensation

**If you are paid hourly, what is your hourly rate at the time of this survey?** (Skip this question if not paid hourly.)



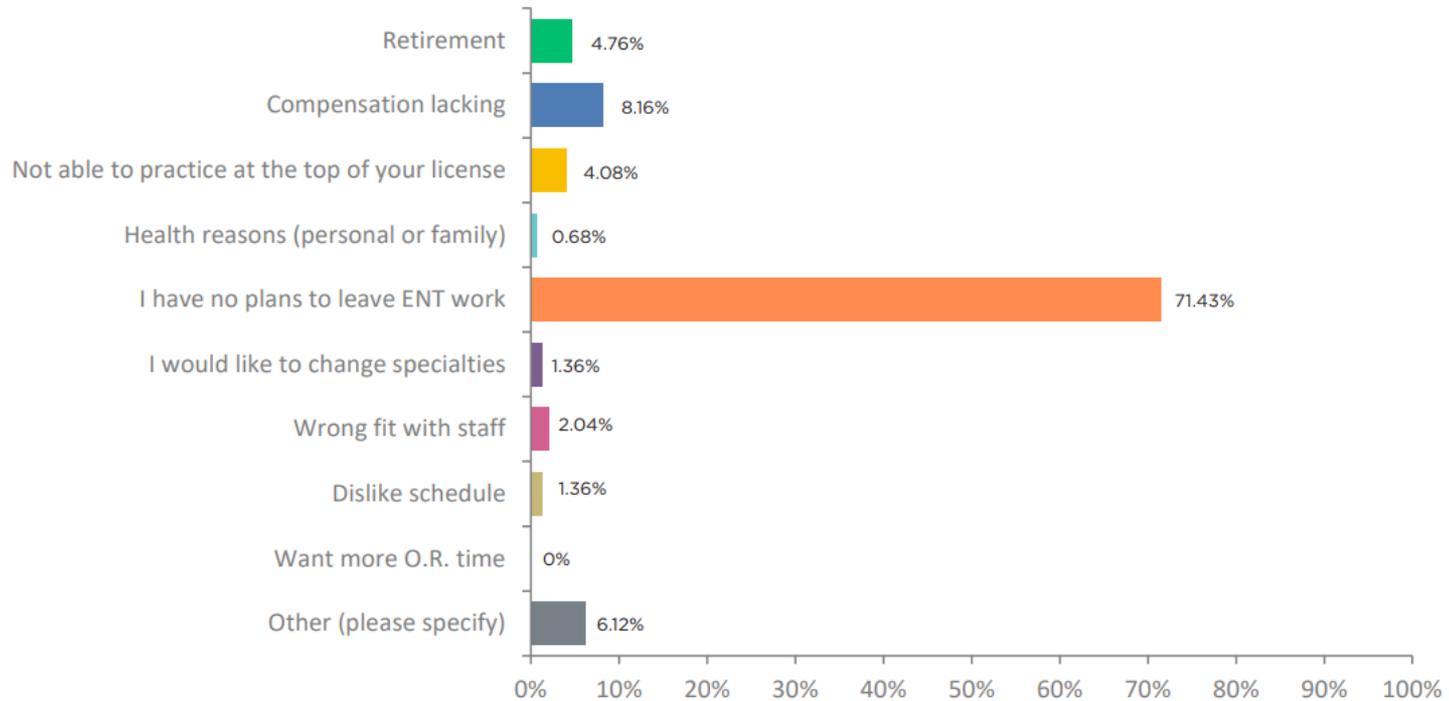
# Compensation

## What is your CME monetary allowance per year?



# Intent to Leave

If you anticipate leaving Otolaryngology in the next five years, what is the reason?



# Thank you!

- Questions

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