

# **ABSTRACT**

**EAOHP 2014**

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## **Gender in a University Hospital: What do differences between female and male physicians tell us?**

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It is well-known that the number of women is steadily growing in medicine. It is also assumed that the increasing number of women in the medical profession will contribute to a change in combining family-life and working-life. When looking into socio-demographic variables it is evident that female and male physicians in university hospitals face different challenges: women are less often married than men, have fewer children and are less often engaged in research to the same extent than their male counterparts (e.g. fewer peer-reviewed publications).

The focus in this study is set on physicians in the Innsbruck University hospital (n=111). Data from the HOUPE survey on their family situation (civil status, number of children) and work situation (academic qualification, night shifts, working hours, support from supervisor) show that female and male physicians have to cope with different responsibilities at work. With the use of information from interviews with 20 physicians from the same University hospital additionally to the data of the HOUPE survey conclusions are drawn what challenges men and women face and how to best possible support them in achieving an optimal balance between working and family life.