

# Do patients have a preference for the gender of their treating urologist?

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# Background

- Majority of patients have no preference for gender of treating doctor
- Many factors influence patient preferences

# Rationale: Why Urology?

- Urology deals with sensitive or embarrassing concerns
- Consultation and a procedural component

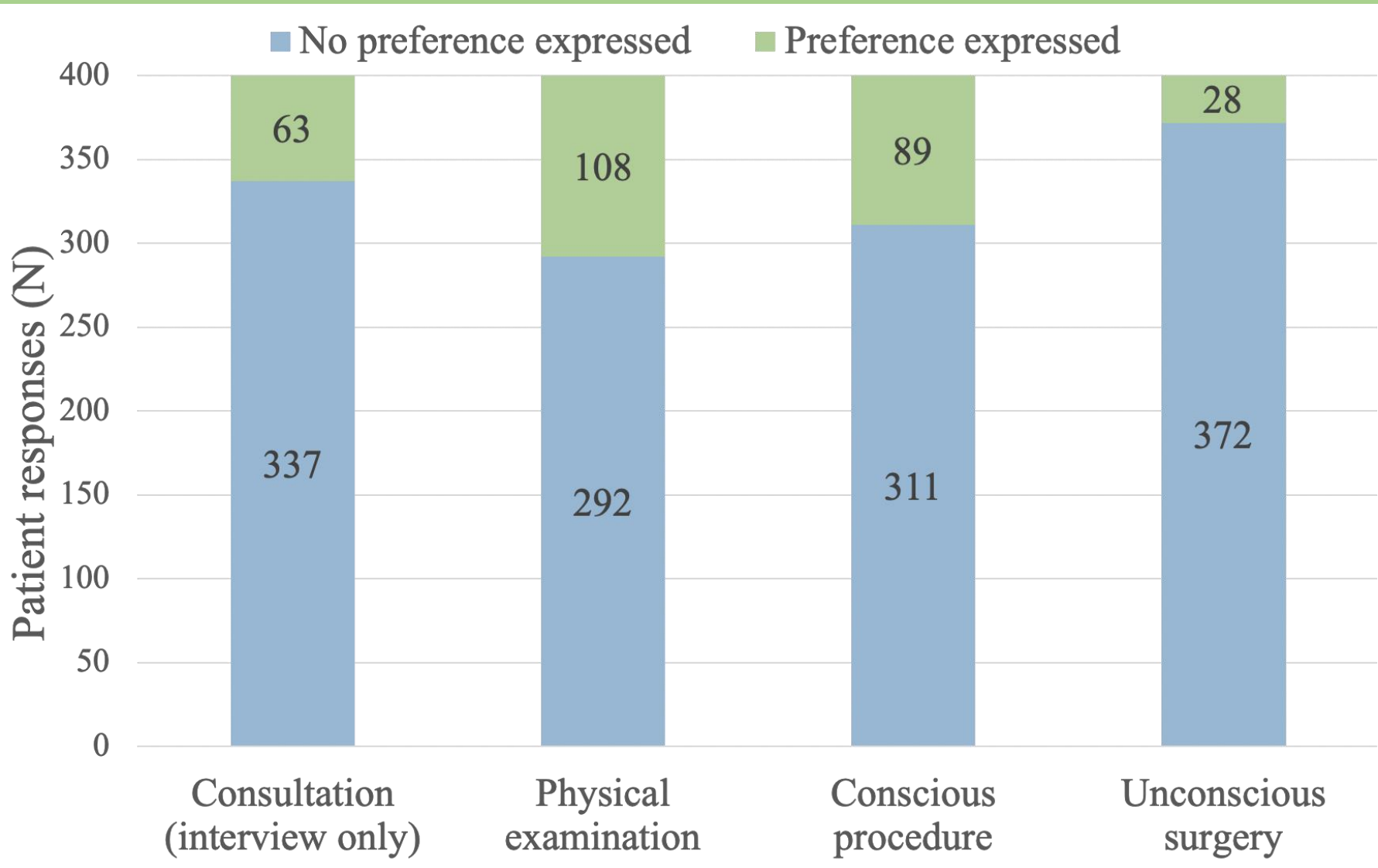
# Methods

- 400 interviews
- Demographics
- Presenting complaint, embarrassing?
- Four scenarios
  - Consultation
  - Physical examination
  - Office based procedure
  - Surgery
- Follow up phone calls

# Results

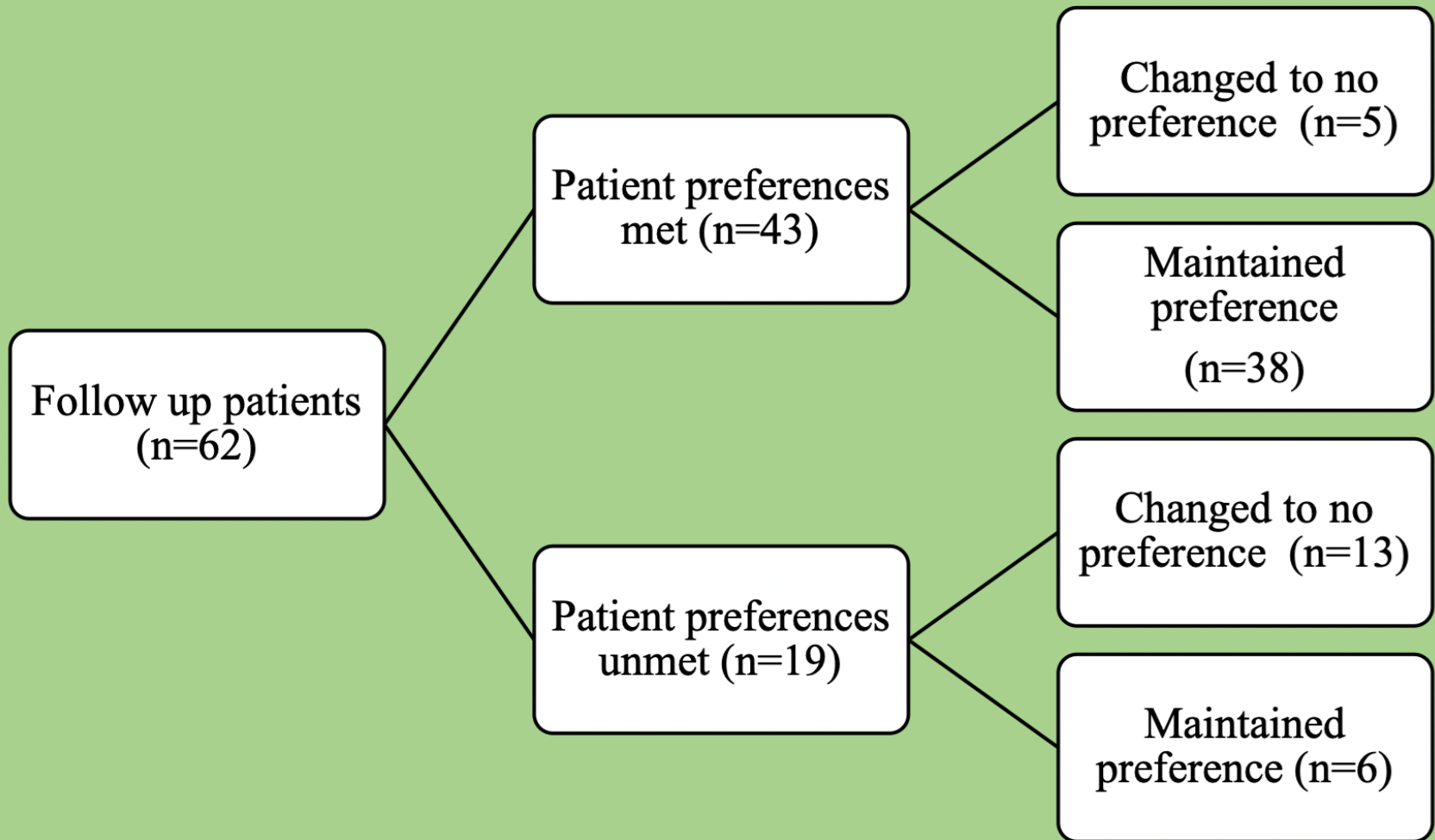
- 329 (82.3%) male and 71 (7.7%) female
- 345 (83.6%) considered their condition to be embarrassing

# *Patient preferences for gender of treating urologist*



- Patients with 'embarrassing' conditions are likely to have a gender preference
- Females likely to have a preference
- Patients likely to have a gender-concordant preference

# *Breakdown of patient preferences in follow-up interview*



# Conclusion and Applications

- Most patients have no preference
- Results translatable to other specialties
- Patient preferences are dynamic