

**The King's Fund** >

# **Women and medical leadership**

Of the 267,300 registered doctors in the UK, 44% are women.

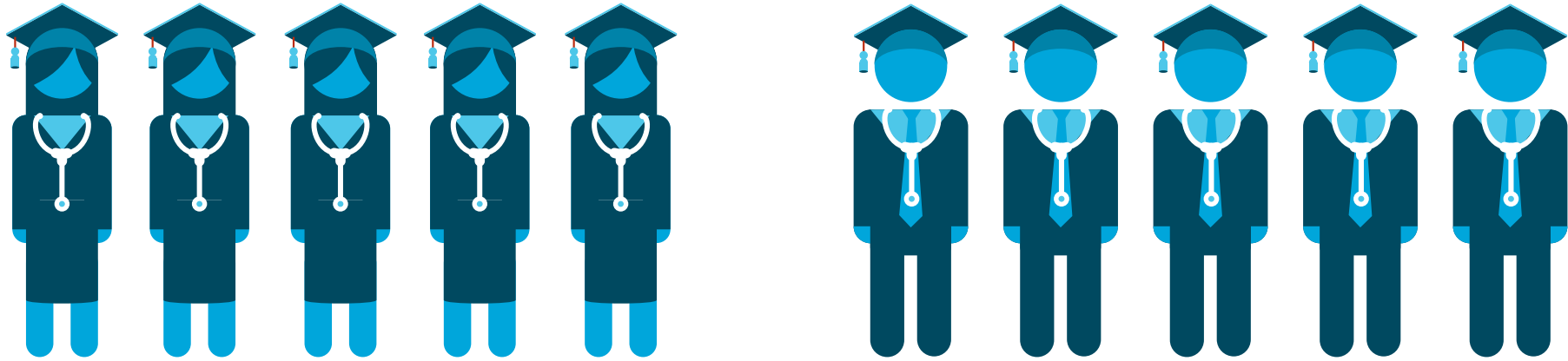


**56%**  
Male



**44%**  
Female

Registered doctors in the UK

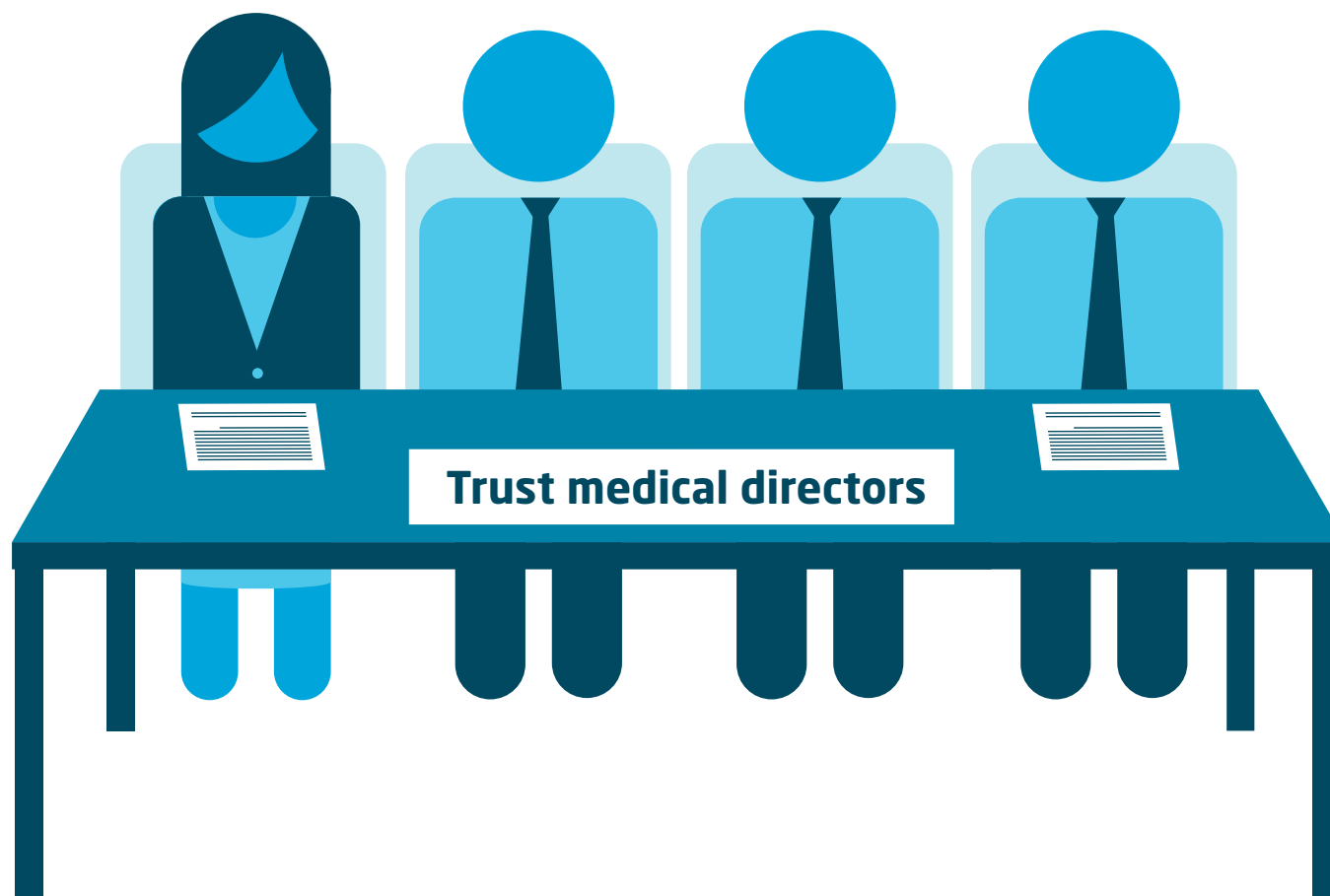


**2014**



**The future?**

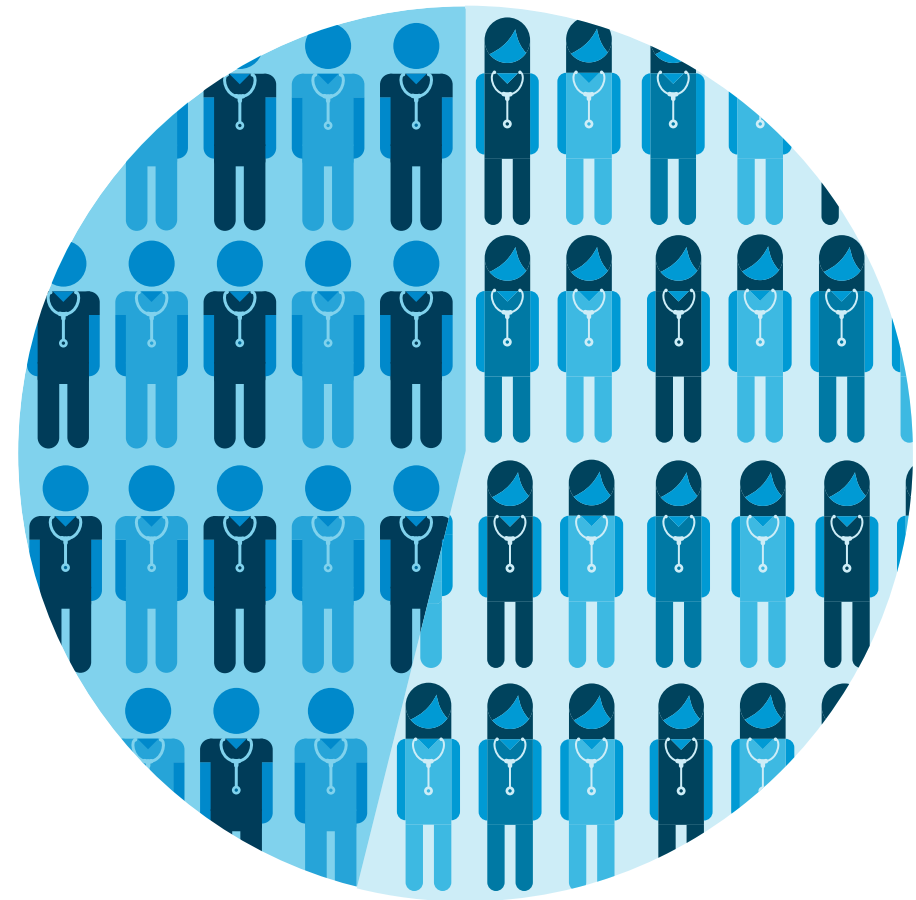
Around 55% of medical students are women. If this trend continues, women will make up the majority of the medical workforce within the next 10 years.



Women are under-represented in medical leadership and academic roles and in some specialties, such as surgery. Only 24% of trust medical directors are women.



Consultants



Trainee doctors

32% of consultants are female, compared to 54% of trainee doctors.



Research has identified a number of barriers to women progressing into leadership roles, including: their personal expectations, organisational cultures, and work-life balance.

Having women at the top of organisations has been shown to change culture and improve organisational performance.

