

Work Place Violence: a review of best practices



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# It should not hurt to care: Why workplace violence matters to me





## Incidence of violence against health care workers

- Health care workers are four times more likely to be a victim of violence than workers in the private sector.
- The National Crime Victimization Survey showed a 20% higher chance for healthcare workers to be a victim of violence compared to other workers.
- A survey by the American Nurses Association (ANA) showed 21% of nurses reporting physical assault and 50% being verbally assaulted.
- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly reports showed that injuries from workplace violence doubled between 2012-2014 and workplace assaults averaged 24,000 incidents per year (2011-13) representing a 75% increase in workplace violence in healthcare.
  - Joint Commission (2010). Preventing Violence in the Health Care Setting
  - · OSHA (2015). Workplace Violence in Healthcare: Understanding the challenge
  - · Joint Commission (2018). Physical and verbal violence against health care workers

## What is workplace violence

 Workplace violence is considered to be any act of aggression, including any physical assault, emotional or verbal abuse directed toward persons at work or on duty.

• These assaults or threats include physical, psychological, and verbal violence such as threats, verbal abuse, and harassment.

OSHA (2015). Workplace Violence in Health Care

#### **Summary of Recommendations**

- 1. Perform workplace analysis
- 2. Create comprehensive organizational violence prevention program
- 3. Adopt 'zero tolerance' policy
- 4. Report violent events through organizational documentation system
- 5. Develop violence response plan
- 6. Perform post event reviews
- 7. Monitor key metrics
- 8. Provide de-escalation training for staff
- 9. Develop behavioral response team

 Strickler (2018) Responding to violence against healthcare staff. Nursing 2018

## Active Shooter Scenario

- Change in Training
  - run, hide, fight
    - becomes
  - secure, preserve, fight
- Inaba et al (2018). Active Shooter Response at Health Care Facility. NEJM



### Resources

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