Prevalence of Workplace Violence in Health Care/Emergency Departments

Health care workers account for 73% of violence-related injuries requiring missed work days.1

In 2018, the rate of serious injuries related to workplace violence was 6x higher for hospital workers than for all other private sector workers in the U.S.1

Studies show that emergency nurses and other personnel in the ED experience a violent event about once every 2 months.2

ED workers are exposed to significant rates of physical and verbal abuse. Under-reporting of workplace violence in the ED is common and contributes to the difficulty in accurately tracking violence.3, 4

From 2011–2018, the rate of nonfatal workplace violence against health care workers grew by 63%.1

Impact of Workplace Violence on Nurses, Patients and U.S. Health Care System

Emergency nurses are more likely to experience acute stress than other nurses.1/3 of emergency nurses reported they had considered leaving the profession due to workplace violence.6

The estimated cost of workplace violence in health care is $4.2 billion annually.7


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