

Review of: "Characterization of Workplace Violence in Healthcare Workers at an Emergency Room in Bogotá, Colombia"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I have some comments that could potentially improve the manuscript.

The title: conveys the main focus of the study - workplace violence in healthcare workers, specifically in an emergency room in Bogotá, Colombia. However, it could benefit from a slight rephrasing to improve clarity and flow. A possible suggestion: "Characterizing Workplace Violence among Emergency Healthcare Workers in Bogotá, Colombia."

Abstract:

Purpose:

The purpose statement is clear and succinct, outlining the main aim of the study: to characterize workplace violence faced by emergency staff at the Hospital Universitario San Ignacio (HUSI).

Methods:

The methods section briefly describes the study design (observational cross-sectional) and the data collection method (online survey), which are appropriate for the study's purpose. However, the specific target population (emergency physicians and practitioners) could be more clearly defined in this section.

Results:

The results section provides an overview of the key findings, highlighting the prevalence of verbal and physical violence among participants and the negative impact on mental and psychological well-being. It also reports the reluctance of some participants to report incidents of violence due to various concerns. To improve clarity, it would be helpful to provide information on the total number of participants in the study (i.e., response rate) along with the percentage breakdown of the different roles (doctors, residents, interns, etc.).

Conclusions:

The conclusions section states that the study allowed for the characterization of workplace violence in a multidisciplinary center in Colombia. However, it mentions the use of a "gender scope" without any reference to gender-related findings in the results section. This should be addressed to avoid confusion.

Keywords:

The chosen keywords are relevant to the study and will help researchers and readers interested in the topic find the article.

Theoretical Framework:

1. The theoretical framework provides a comprehensive overview of workplace violence, including definitions from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the global prevalence of physical and verbal violence in healthcare settings. The background information is well-referenced and highlights the importance of addressing workplace violence in emergency departments.

2. The framework mentions the potential consequences and costs of workplace violence on healthcare systems, workers, and quality of care. It also discusses the factors contributing to workplace violence and potential prevention strategies. However, the framework could be improved by organizing these factors and strategies into subheadings to make the text more readable and structured.

Objectives:

The objectives are clearly stated, outlining the main aim of the study and the additional objectives.

Methods:

1. The search strategy is well-detailed, providing information on the databases used and the specific search methods, including free text, subject terms, MeSH, and Emtree.

2. The scope of the study and population are briefly described, specifying the study design (cross-sectional descriptive observational study) and the target population (emergency physicians and practitioners at HUSI). However, the inclusion and exclusion criteria for participants should be mentioned to clarify the study's population further.

3. The study protocol describes the questionnaire used in the study, its translation, and validation process. It also provides a brief overview of the survey's content and structure. To improve this section, it would be helpful to provide more information on the data collection process, such as how participants were recruited and how the survey was distributed. Additionally, discussing the ethical considerations and any measures taken to protect participant anonymity and confidentiality would strengthen this section.

Overall, the article presents a well-researched and relevant topic in healthcare, with a clear purpose and objectives. The theoretical framework and methods sections could benefit from minor improvements in organization and detail to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the study.