

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.

The article addresses the issue of violence in an emergency room in health services in Bogotá, Colombia. It is well written and presents scientific interest, however I observed some questions to be elaborated, these questions are listed below.

- In the last paragraph of the Introduction section, the sentence that argues for the improvement of poor working conditions is confused.
- For greater precision, it would be very important to survey the total number of professionals working in the service during the period in which the survey was carried out. This would make it possible to understand the total size of the target population and its relationship with the sample actually obtained. The article mentions in its Limits the issue of selection bias related to low participation and justifies it, however the data on the total number of professionals working and classified by category is not mentioned, making it difficult to perceive the impact of violence on professionals active in the service.
- The results are presented in well-organized tables, but the age groups are not homogeneous. The age group with the largest number of participants is the first age group, which ranges from 18 to 30 years, with a 13-year interval, while the other age groups have only 10 years.
- The experience time ranges are also not homogeneous: the first range is the most numerous and is also the range with the highest number of years: 0 to 5 comprise 6 years of experience, while the other time ranges comprise 5 years.
- In Table 2, in the item Impact of incidences of violence, 6 lines of results and only 5 lines of classification of feelings are presented.
- The article discusses violence directed at women and this is a very important issue that is also influenced by cultural models. It is quite interesting the report of the participant who attributed the change in the patient's aggressive behavior to the fact that he started to be attended by a man. On the other hand, we observed that women are the majority both in the study sample in question and in health services in general. As they are the majority, they are expected to report more episodes. To deal with this question a weighting in percentage terms should be done. That is, what is the percentage of women or men who have suffered violence in the workplace, and in relation to the total number of professionals working in each professional category and according to gender.



Best regards