

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

Val Bellman

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The article titled "Characterization of Workplace Violence in Healthcare Workers at an Emergency Room in Bogotá, Colombia" provides valuable insights into the prevalence and impact of workplace violence (WPV) faced by emergency staff at the Hospital Universitario San Ignacio (HUSI). The study, conducted as an observational cross-sectional study using an online survey, sheds light on the demographic variables and WPV experiences of doctors, residents, interns, medical students, and nurses.

One of the notable findings of this study is that a significant proportion of healthcare workers at HUSI have experienced workplace violence. Specifically, the survey revealed that approximately 91.4% of the staff have encountered verbal altercations, while 17.1% have faced physical violence. These numbers highlight the distressing reality faced by healthcare professionals in emergency settings, emphasizing the urgent need for effective interventions and support systems.

The article appropriately emphasizes the negative impact of workplace violence on the mental and psychological well-being of healthcare workers. The study's findings align with existing literature that suggests the detrimental consequences of violence in the workplace, including increased stress, anxiety, and burnout among healthcare professionals. By shedding light on this issue, the authors draw attention to the urgent need for comprehensive measures to address workplace violence and safeguard the well-being of emergency staff.

An important aspect highlighted in the article is the reluctance of some participants to report incidents of violence. The reasons cited for this reluctance include concerns about legal actions against the perpetrator, lack of organizational support, and fear of potential negative consequences on career progression. This finding underscores the importance of creating a supportive and safe environment for healthcare workers, where they feel comfortable reporting incidents and seeking the necessary support without fear of reprisal.

The article effectively concludes by highlighting the significance of the study's findings in characterizing workplace violence experienced by healthcare practitioners at a multidisciplinary center in Colombia. The inclusion of a gender scope in the analysis provides valuable information about the specific challenges faced by female healthcare workers. By shedding light on the prevalence and impact of workplace violence, the study contributes to the body of knowledge on this important issue and can inform the development of targeted interventions and policies aimed at preventing and addressing workplace violence in healthcare settings.

Overall, the article provides a comprehensive overview of the characterization of workplace violence faced by healthcare workers at an emergency room in Bogotá, Colombia. The study's findings underscore the urgent need for measures to address this issue and protect the well-being of healthcare professionals. The article's clarity and effective presentation of the study's objectives, methods, and results make it a valuable contribution to the field of healthcare workplace violence research.