

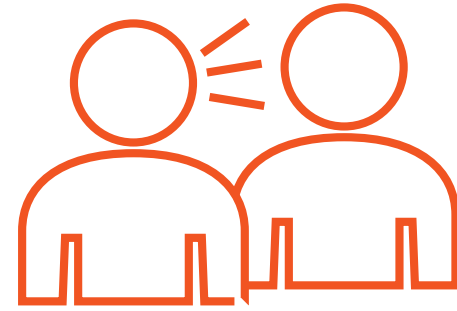
Take a stand: No more violence to health care workers

Forms of violence to health care workers

- Biting
- Kicking
- Punching
- Pushing
- Pinching
- Shoving



- Scratching
- Spitting
- Name calling
- Intimidating
- Threatening
- Yelling



- Harassing
- Stalking
- Beating
- Choking
- Stabbing
- Killing

Statistics on violence against health care workers

- 25 percent of nurses reported being physically assaulted by a patient or a patient's family member, and about half reported being bullied (ANA)
- Workers in health care settings are four times more likely to be victimized than workers in private industry (SIA and IAHSF)
- Health care workers have a 20 percent higher chance of being the victim of workplace violence than other workers (National Crime Victimization Survey)
- Violence-related injuries are four times more likely to cause health care workers to take time off from work than other kinds of injuries (BLS)



75 percent of nearly **25,000** workplace assaults reported annually occurred in health care and social service settings (OSHA)



Violence against health care workers is grossly underreported

Only **30** percent of nurses report incidents of violence



Only **26** percent of emergency department physicians report violent incidents



Health care workers

- think that violence is “part of the job”
- are sometimes uncertain what constitutes violence
- often believe their assailants are not responsible for their actions due to conditions affecting their mental state



Factors associated with perpetrators of violence

- Altered mental status or mental illness
- Patients in police custody
- Long wait times or crowding
- Being given “bad news” about a diagnosis
- Gang activity
- Domestic disputes among patients or visitors
- Presence of firearms or other weapons



What to do when violence occurs



Report it! Notify leadership, security and, if needed, law enforcement.