

quality of workplace violence prevention (WVP) training programs and policies between management and staff in EDs and psychiatric units in two states.

Methods: Data were collected through interviews with 442 staff and 226 nurse managers from a random sample of hospital EDs and psychiatric units in California and New Jersey. California has a statewide mandate requiring specific training provisions to reduce violence against workers, while New Jersey (at the time of the study) was governed solely by federal OSHA guidelines. Chi-square statistics were used to compare perceived quality of WVP programs between management and staff.

Results: More staff than management reported their WVP policies to be "excellent" to "very good" ($p < .05$). ED staff reported higher ratings of their WVP policies ($p < .01$), while psychiatric unit staff reported higher ratings of their WVP training ($p < .01$), compared to management. In California, ED staff rated their WVP policies "excellent" to "very good" ($p < .01$), and psychiatric staff reported their training programs "excellent" to "very good" ($p < .01$), compared to management. Psychiatric staff reported that they felt more secure in their unit than ED staff ($p < .001$), and California ED staff felt more secure in their unit than ED staff in New Jersey ($p < .01$).

Conclusions: Staff and management perceptions of the quality of WVP policies and training programs differed between states, suggesting that legislation mandating comprehensive WPV security plans can result in improved worker satisfaction. Psychiatric staff felt more secure in their units, suggesting that WVP training programs used in psychiatric units could benefit emergency departments.

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Title: Physical and Psychological Trauma to Emergency Department Workers due to Violence from Pediatric Patients and Visitors

Authors: **Gillespie G**, Gates D, Miller M, Howard PK

Introduction: Violence in healthcare is a significant problem, occurring four times more often than in private industry. Among the highest at-risk healthcare workers are those in emergency departments (EDs). Research indicates that there are physical and psychological consequences to violence including pain, injury, and negative emotional reactions. Yet, there is a lack of research regarding whether those working in pediatric settings suffer these consequences after a violent incident. The purpose of this qualitative study was to describe the physical and

psychological traumatic consequences of verbal and physical violence from pediatric patients and visitors.

Methods: Semi-structured interviews with 31 healthcare workers from an urban pediatric ED were audio taped and transcribed. Data were analyzed to identify the workers' personal responses after violent events.

Results: Participants reported both physical and psychological responses following physical and verbal violence. Violence was most likely to occur from patients being seen for mental health complaints, from the parents of a chronically ill child, and from the parent after a child's death. Physical responses included increased heart rate, flushed face, insomnia, shakiness, adrenaline rush, and the need to pace. Psychological responses included being afraid, embarrassed, irritated, and offended. Responses included the avoidance of patient perpetrators or the child of a family perpetrator. Participants believed they have few, if any, alternatives other than to accept the violence. Participants reported a greater degree of emotional and physical support from colleagues with events of physical violence compared to verbal violence.

Discussion: Healthcare workers in a pediatric ED were recipients of both verbal and physical violence. The negative consequences experienced were similar to those reported by ED workers providing care for adult patients. Interventions need to be developed to prevent violence when possible and prevent the negative consequences when violence does occur.

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Title: NIOSH Workplace Violence Initiative Intramural Research

Authors: **Hartley D**, Amandus H

Introduction: The NIOSH Workplace Violence Initiative was started in 2002 as a result of a congressional appropriation. Congress directed NIOSH "...to develop an intramural and extramural prevention research program that will target all aspects of workplace violence and to coordinate its efforts with the Departments of Justice and Labor." This poster summarizes the NIOSH Intramural program.

Methods: National surveys were conducted using three distinct survey frames: National Crime Victimization Survey Workplace Risk Supplement; National Electronic Injury Surveillance System assault victim followback; and Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses employer supplement. Surveys

focused on security, policies/practices, training, incident reporting, and estimating workplace violence prevalence.

Current field studies include: Workplace violence prevention intervention evaluation for effectiveness of a problem-oriented police program to reduce robberies/robbery-related assaults in retail establishments; an intervention evaluation of the effectiveness of a Violence Prevention Community Meeting to reduce patient-on-nurse violence in Veterans' Health Administration psychiatric facilities; a study of prevalence of risk factors and workplace violence prevention policies among teachers/school staff; and evaluation of taxicab incidents and safety equipment. Additional efforts include the NIOSH Federal Task Force and stakeholder meetings.

Results: For each survey at least half of the respondents answered yes to: "Is the workplace open to the public?" For two surveys, guards/police protection was the top security measure. Currently, the retail field study is conducting data collection with one police department. The Veterans' Health Administration project is conducting data collection with three hospitals, another five are close to IRB approval. The teacher/school staff project developed a partner working group to revise the survey instrument and assist with project implementation.

Conclusions: The survey results and field studies currently being conducted at NIOSH provide the basis for implementing and evaluating workplace violence interventions in several different industry sectors.

Agriculture

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Title: A Decade of Progress: Childhood Agricultural Safety and Health Research

Author: **Hard DL**

Introduction: The NIOSH Childhood Agricultural Safety and Health research grants are a component of the NIOSH Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention Initiative, started in FY 1997 by an act of Congress. The goal of the Initiative is to reduce the risk of fatal and non-fatal injuries to children who live on, work on or visit farms.

Methods: NIOSH-funded research grants under the NIOSH Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention Initiative were reviewed by: (1) topic area(s) addressed by grants funded within the request for

proposals (RFP) and (2) identifying research needs and gaps.

Results: Thirty-two Childhood Agricultural Safety and Health research grants were funded from 1997 to 2006. Twelve research grants addressed "educational interventions/evaluations" and seven research grants targeted minority populations, primarily Hispanic/migrant youth (and/or their families). Six of the research grants specifically targeted the North American Guidelines for Children's Agricultural Tasks (NAGCAT), a resource developed to assist parents in assigning farm jobs to their children 7 - 16 years of age, living or working on farms. The NAGCAT was developed by the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (NCCRAHS), which is another component of the NIOSH Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention Initiative. Two research grants addressed agricultural youth surveillance issues, and two research grants evaluated the impact of two different organizational farm safety day camps for children.

Discussion: The majority of the grants were targeted toward educational interventions for youth. However, analysis indicates that about 22% of the total research grants which have been awarded to-date targeted minority youth agricultural populations for injury prevention. Evaluations of large-scale national/international educational programs for youth have been conducted. Research gaps identified include childcare and play/recreation areas, incentives for adults to protect youth, economic and social consequences of youth working on farms, model programs for youth training and an update on a national research agenda.

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Title: Agricultural Injury Among Rural California High-School Students

Authors: **McCurdy S, Xiao H, Kwan J**

Introduction: Agricultural work is an important cause of fatality and nonfatal injury among adolescents on U.S. farms. There are few data describing agricultural work and injury experience for this group.

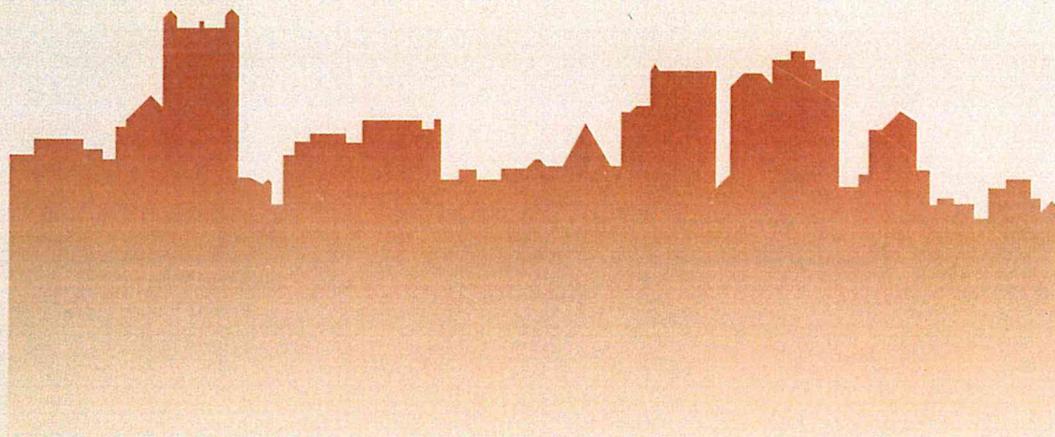
Methods: We conducted an observational longitudinal study of agricultural work and injury among rural high school students at 10 rural California public high schools with programs in agricultural studies. Subjects completed an annual survey addressing demographic characteristics, and school course work in agricultural safety, work, and injury experience.

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