A descriptive study of Work Related Violence (WRV) encountered by nurses working in selected hospitals of Madhya Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

Background: Violence has increased dramatically. It is the leading cause of death worldwide. Although all occupations are exposed to violence, health care workers and nurses in particular face various types of Work Related Violence (WRV) globally.

Aim: The aim of the study is to gain deeper understanding of WRV encountered by nurses.

Statement of the Problem: A descriptive study of Work Related Violence (WRV) encountered by nurses working in selected hospitals of Madhya Pradesh.

Methods: A descriptive survey approach was adopted. SIS was prepared to collect data of 500 nurses selected by simple random sampling technique.

Results: Majority nurses were female, young, married, belonging to general category, Hindu, residing within 5 km from hospital, GNM/NM, service experience 1-5 years, drawing monthly salary of Rs 11001-14000/, posted as staff nurses. Majority worked in shifts with 1-5 staff; oriented to WRV on joining service and were slightly worried about WRV. Majority reported WRV to ward in charges, reporting procedures were easy to understand, were encouraged to report incidences of WRV. The study revealed overall WRV encountered by nurses in the last one year was 28.28% The types of WRV encountered were Aggression (32.16%), Physical Violence (32.08%), Psychological Violence (29.68%), Bullying (26.92%) and Sexual Violence (20.6%). Majority nurses encountered Physical Violence in the emergency dept, Aggression, Bullying and Sexual Violence in the wards. The frequency was 2-3 times, shift was afternoon. The perpetrators of violence were patient’s relatives; patients followed by doctors and were single in Physical Violence, Sexual Violence and in groups in Bullying and Aggression. Nurses were partially satisfied with verbal warnings given to perpetrators. They expressed anger, felt helpless and ashamed on encountering WRV. The Chi-Values computed between all types of violence (Aggression, Physical, Psychological and Sexual Violence, Bullying) were significantly associated with demographic variables like age, gender, marital status, present residence, academic qualification, years of experience and salary per month except category of employment, religion and professional qualification. Regarding their opinion to combat WRV
majority 64.6% of nurses expressed provision of security, 60.2% demanded strict action against offender, and 58.4% suggested training to deal with WRV and for improvement in work place environment.

**Key words:** Work Related Violence, Aggression, Physical Violence, Psychological Violence, Bullying and Sexual Violence