

Violence in the Occupational Therapy Workplace Background to the Project and Survey Report 2016

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Welcome

What is available on the website?




- on-line professional development module focused on identifying and addressing violence in the occupational therapy workplace.
 - Seven units and handouts
- Resources
- Downloadable CPD Certificate of participation upon completion of the post-test.






How did we develop the materials?

- Background survey
- Key informant interviews
- Extensive literature search
- Pilot testing









Survey findings summary:







Response	Chart	Percentage
Alberta		49.1%
In Canada but outside of Alberta (please write in)		22.6%
Outside of Canada (please write in)		28.3%
		Total Responses 283






Response	Chart	Percentage
29 and under		24.6%
30-39		23.9%
40-49		19.4%
50-59		24.6%
60+		7.4%
90% F/10% M		Total Responses 284








Response	Chart	Percentage
Staff		56.1%
Student		14.0%
manager/practice lead/administrator- with client/patient contact		12.6%
manager/practice lead/administration- NO client/patient contact		4.2%
academic/educator		3.9%
Other, please specify...		9.1%

- 90% interact with patients/clients
- 78% have routine physical contact with patients/clients
- 15% worked alone
- 36%- worked with 1-5 others
- 31% worked with 10+

Response	Chart	Percentage
Mental Health		15.8%
Physical Medicine (e.g. orthopedic, neurological, medical)		44.0%
Childhood development		16.5%
Community development/social services		5.3%
Government/Policy/Academic		3.9%
I am an OT student		14.4%

Response	Chart	Percentage
Infants and Children (between 0 and 10 years of age)		23.4%
Adolescents (11-18 years of old)		17.4%
Adults		64.5%
Older Adults		51.1%
No patient/client contact		4.3%

Response	Chart	Percentage
1- not worried at all		31.7%
2		41.3%
3		17.1%
4		8.5%
5- very worried		1.4%



In the last 12 months, attacked in your workplace?

Physically-

- 17.9% were attacked, 89.1% by patient/family,
- 20% injured, 8% required treatment
- Witness physical violence – 30%, 10% weekly

Verbally –

- 37.3% verbally attacked
- 7.5% 'a; of the time',
- 37% by co-worker/manger
- 6% transferred/quit,
- Did not report because 1) it would be useless- 60%, 2) consequences -24%, ashamed, guilty,

Bullied/mobbed-

- 19% , 'All of the time'-7.5%,
- 90% co-worker/manager
- Did not report because 1) it would be useless- 71%, 2) consequences -64%, ashamed- 21%

Sexually harassed-

- 8%, 'all of the time'-6%
- Patients/family 82%, co-worker/ manager 25%
- Did not report because 1) it would be useless- 66%, 2) consequences -34%



Very brief snapshot-

What we know:

Violence in the workplace is believed to be on the rise, despite evidence of significant under-reporting. Reasons cited by health care professionals for not reporting violence include the stigma attached to ‘being a victim’ as well as shame, self-blame, and the fear of repercussions from co-workers or of further violence.

Sustained exposure to violence in the workplace, including aggression, abuse, and bullying can have serious physical and psychological consequences causing occupational therapists to leave their positions and even the profession. Violence in the workplace also results in decreased patient safety and compromised patient outcomes.

What’s next?

The 7 units in this module provide detailed information about violence in health care workplaces, including a clear definition, a description of the factors that increase the risks of violence, and realistic actions and resources that can be used to prevent and manage wide-ranging forms of workplace violence.

