

Contribution to the Quantitative Study of Violence in Algerian Hospital Environment

Yamina Heddar, Mébarek Djebabra and Saadai Saadi

Laboratory of Research in Industrial Prevention

Institute of Health & Safety

University of Chahid Mostepha Ben Boulaid Batna 2

Batna, Algeria

y.heddar@univ-batna2.dz, m.djebabra@univ-batna2.dz, s.saadi@univ-batna2.dz

Abstract

The workplace, and more particularly the healthcare sector, has recently experienced a staggering increase in violence. These aggressive behaviors are resulting in considerable consequences on healthcare workers, both in terms of mental and physical health. In light of this observation, this study aims to provide a quantitative analysis of the potential causes leading to violence in Algerian hospitals, which have become the place where tensions arise, especially during these uncertain times caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Therefore, we started with conducting a field survey, in order to highlight the main causes behind this violence, as well as the strategy in terms of how it is managed as a risk. Then we used ISHIKAWA diagrams to classify predefined causes into several categories and anticipate the likelihood of such violent behaviors. Finally, the results of this study revealed that working conditions were the main cause of violence in Algerian hospitals. In order to remedy this gap, we recommend improving the healthcare staff well-being, as well as prioritizing proactive measures preventing violent behaviors.

Keywords

Workplace, Violence, Hospitals, Ishikawa, Preventative measures.

Biographies

Ms. Yamina Heddar, PhD Student in Occupational Health & Safety, Institute of Health & Safety, University of Batna 2. She holds a MSc in Occupational Health & Safety, Institute of Health & Safety. Her main Research topics are Risk Prevention, Preventive Behavior and Safety performance.

Pr. Mebarek Djebabra, is a Full time Professor at the Institute of Health & Safety, University of Batna 2. He holds a PhD from the University of Bordeaux 1, France, in Technical System's Reliability. He is a director of Laboratory of Research in Industrial Prevention. He provides lectures in Occupational Safety and Systems Reliability, and undertakes research in Safety Management.

Dr. Saadia Saadi, is a lecturer at the Institute of Health & Safety, University of Batna 2, Algeria. She holds a MSc and a PhD in Risk Management. She is a responsible of academic master in Occupational Health & Safety. Her research focuses on Safety and Health at Work, Risk Management and Risks of Transporting Hazardous Materials.