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PREVALENCE OF WORKPLACE VIOLENCE AGAINST NURSES WORKING IN HOSPITALS

BACKGROUND

- The rise in the documented rates of workplace violence (WPV) in healthcare facilities has become a major issue for healthcare providers worldwide particularly nurses.
- The exposure to such violence can result in grave consequences on the physiological and psychological well-being of nurses.
- However, previous studies rarely differentiate between the types of workplace violence, their sources and their impact on nursing staff.

AIM

This review aims to describe the prevalence of workplace violence against nurses in hospitals.

METHOD

- A review based on the PRISMA guidelines including studies of qualitative, quantitative and mixed method design focusing on nursing workplace violence.
- Search was conducted using: CINAHL, MEDLINE and PubMed databases through the Saudi Digital library.
- The search was conducted over the last five years.
- Included studies were critically appraised using Hawker et al. (2002) critical appraisal tool.
- 25 studies matching the inclusion criteria emerged and were incorporated into the review.



CONCLUSION

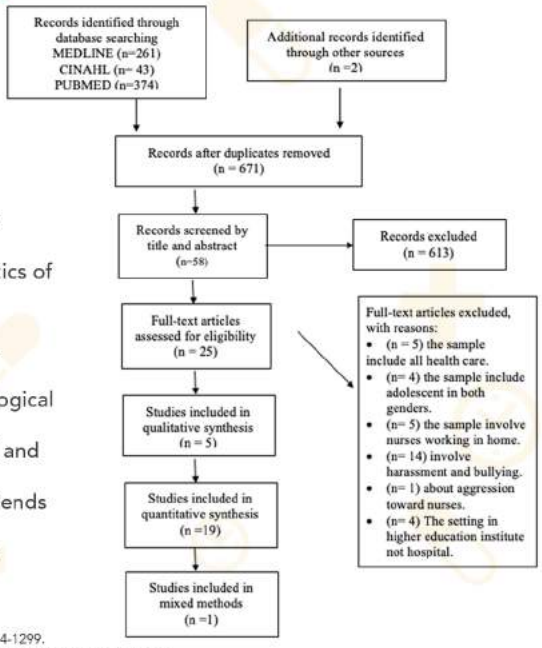
- This review recommends more high-quality research to be conducted using systematic techniques and standardized tools allowing for generalizations across studies.
- Furthermore, preventive action in the form of multi-level educational programs and legislative polices to support and protect the rights of those reporting WPV are urgently needed.

RESULTS

Four themes emerged from the literature relating specifically to violence towards nurses and they are: common settings where violence is experienced, common types of violence, characteristics of perpetrators and the overall impact of violence on nurses:

- Common hospital settings where WPV experienced:
  - Emergency, psychiatric, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).
  - Highest rates for physical violence, sexual harassment, and horizontal abuse in U.S region, and the highest rates of psychological violence and bullying in Asia.
- Most prevalent forms of WPV: Verbal, physical, psychological and horizontal violence respectively.
- Most common perpetrators: Patients and patents' families/friends accounted for of WPV.
- Consequences of WPV: A decrease in physical and emotional well-being linked to an increase in job dissatisfaction, burnout, absenteeism and quitting work.

PRISMA



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