

# Workplace violence injury in 106 US hospitals participating in the Occupational Health Safety Network (OHSN), 2012 - 2015

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### Introduction

#### Workplace Violence (WPV)

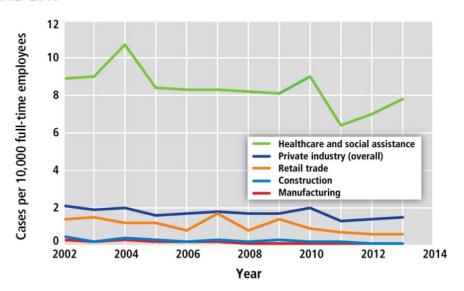
- "...any physical assault, threatening behavior, or verbal abuse occurring in the work setting" (NIOSH, 1996)
- "...incidents where staff are abused, threatened or assaulted in circumstances related to their work, including commuting to and from work, involving an explicit or implicit challenge to their safety, well-being or health" (ILO, ICN, WHO & PSI, 2002)



#### Workplace Violence (WPV)

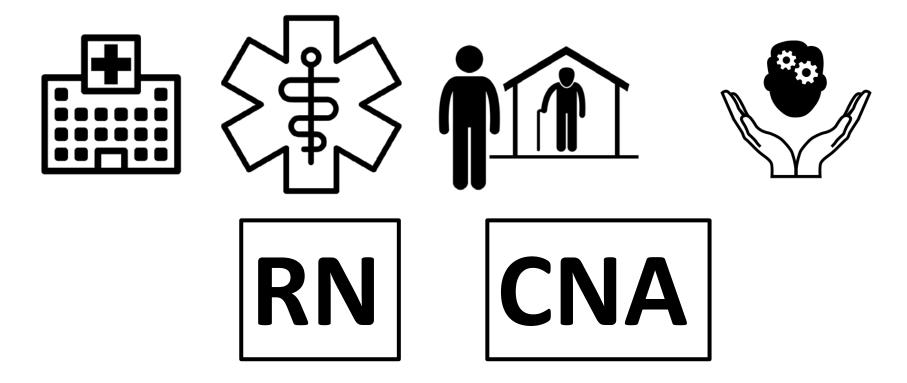
Substantial hazard for healthcare workers (HCW) in the US

Violent Injuries Resulting in Days Away from Work, by Industry, 2002–2013



Data source: Bureau of Labor Statistics data for intentional injuries caused by humans, excluding self-inflicted injuries.

#### **High-Risk Settings and Occupations**



#### The Occupational Health Safety Network (OHSN)

- Voluntary system created by NIOSH
- Enables hospitals to track 3 types of occupational injuries
  - Slips, trips and fall injuries (STF)
  - Musculoskeletal injuries from patient handling and movement (PHM)
  - Workplace violence injuries (WPV)
- By various worker and event characteristics
- Using standardized data elements designed for OHSN
- To identify prevention priorities and to implement and evaluate interventions



### Methods

#### **Study Design and Population**

- Objectives
  - Characterize the extent of WPV injuries in OHSN-participating hospitals
  - Identify potential WPV risk factors
- Analysis
  - WPV injury surveillance data submitted to OHSN during 2012 2015
  - All workers in participating hospitals, with or without patient care duties
  - Describe distribution of WPV event characteristics
  - Incidence rates and incidence rate ratios (IRR) for
    - Occupation
    - Year
    - Selected hospital characteristics

#### **Variables**

- Describing distribution of WPV event characteristics
  - Worker occupation
  - Worker age
  - Worker sex
  - Event location
  - Injury severity
  - Type of assailant
  - Type of event

#### Hospital characteristics

(From AHA annual member surveys)

- Overall and occupation-specific person-time denominators (FTE)
- Hospital type
- Hospital ownership
- Hospital size
- Hospital location (urbanicity)
- Medical school affiliation
- Ratio of nurse FTEs to monthly admission (proxy for staffing levels)

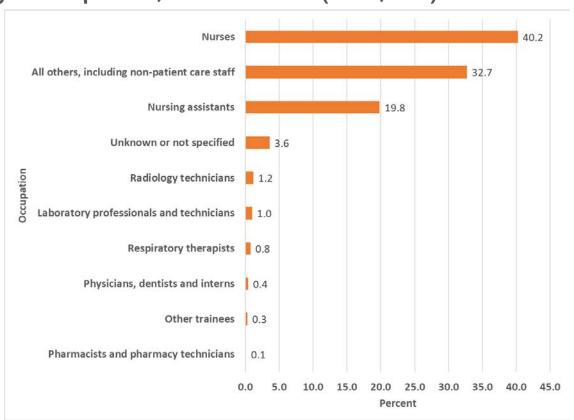
#### **Statistical Analysis**

- Frequency and proportional distribution of WPV event characteristics
  - Denominator data not available by age, sex, location
- WPV incidence rates per 1,000 FTE and 95% CIs
  - Occupation, year and hospital characteristics
- Bivariable IRR and 95% CIs
  - Occupation, year and hospital characteristics
- Multivariable-adjusted IRR and 95% CIs
  - Occupation, year, hospital characteristics, random effect of hospital
    - Multilevel, multivariable negative binomial regression model (SAS GLIMMIX)

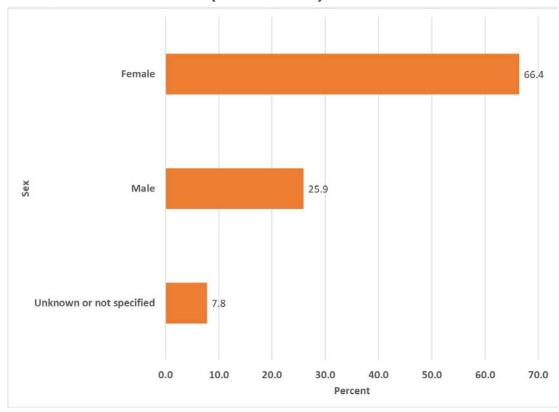
#### Results

One-Way Analysis of WPV Events

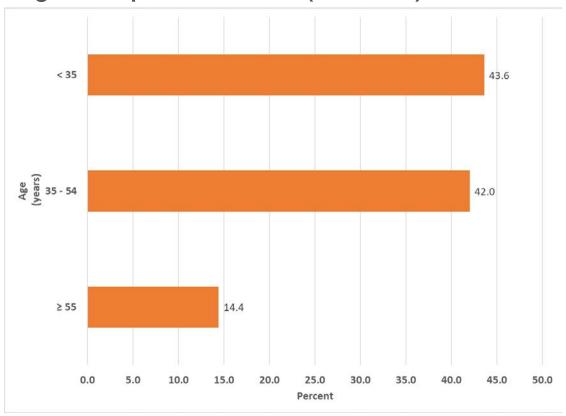
# Distribution of Workplace Violence Events in 106 OHSN -Participating Hospitals by Occupation, 2012 - 2015 (N=3,263)



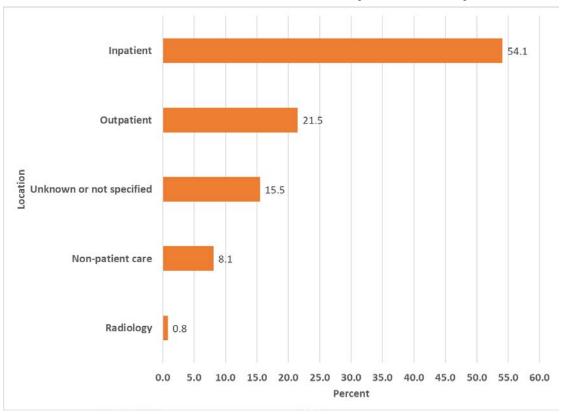
# Distribution of Workplace Violence Events in 106 OHSN -Participating Hospitals by Sex,2012 - 2015 (N=3,263)



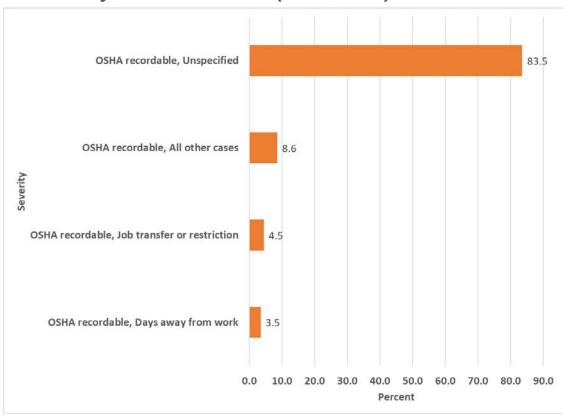
# Distribution of Workplace Violence Events in 106 OHSN -Participating Hospitals by Age Group, 2012 - 2015 (N=3,263)



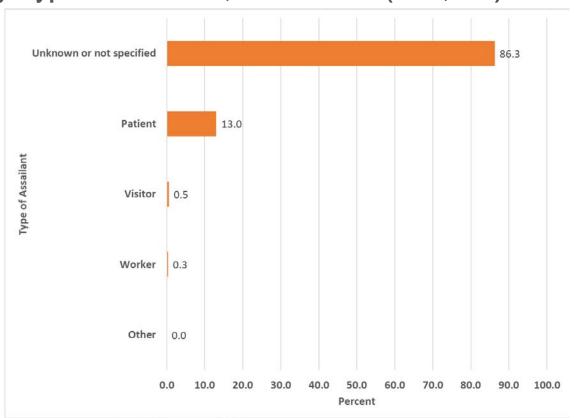
# Distribution of Workplace Violence Events in 106 OHSN -Participating Hospitals by Event Location, 2012 - 2015 (N=3,263)



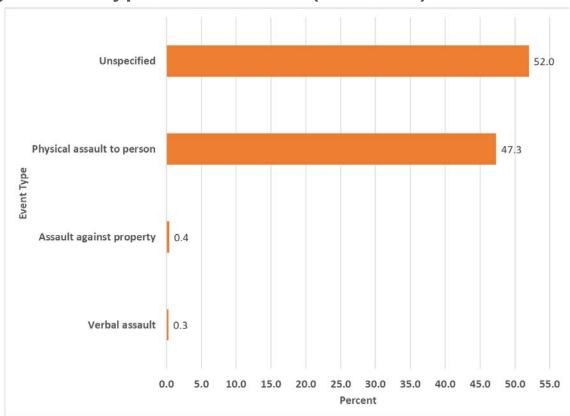
# Distribution of Workplace Violence Events in 106 OHSN -Participating Hospitals by Severity, 2012 - 2015 (N=3,263)



# Distribution of Workplace Violence Events in 106 OHSN -Participating Hospitals by Type of Assailant, 2012 - 2015 (N=3,263)



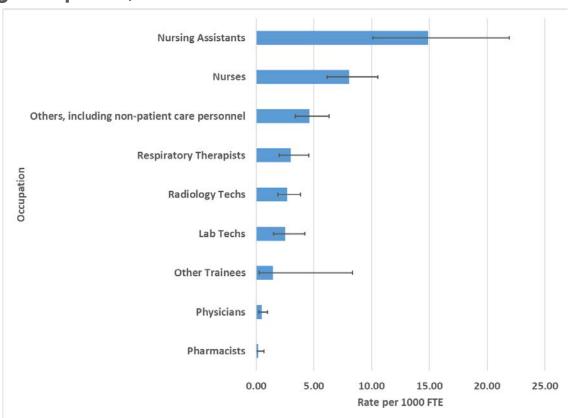
# Distribution of Workplace Violence Events in 106 OHSN -Participating Hospitals by Event Type,2012 - 2015 (N=3,263)



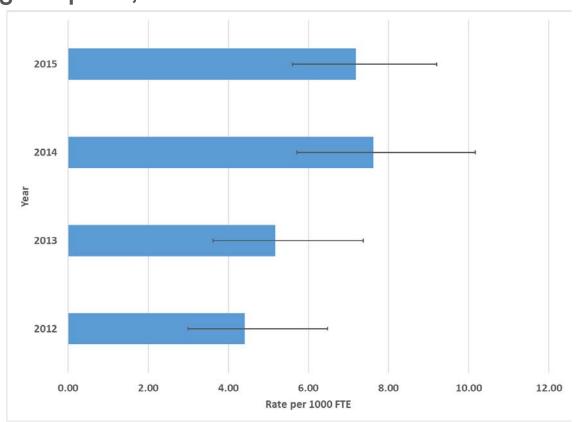
### Results

WPV Injury Incidence Rates per 1,000 FTE

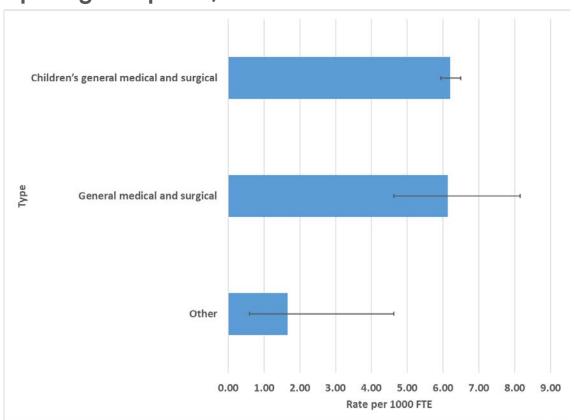
### WPV Injury Incidence Rates and 95% Cls by Occupation in 105 OHSN Participating Hospitals, 2012 - 2015



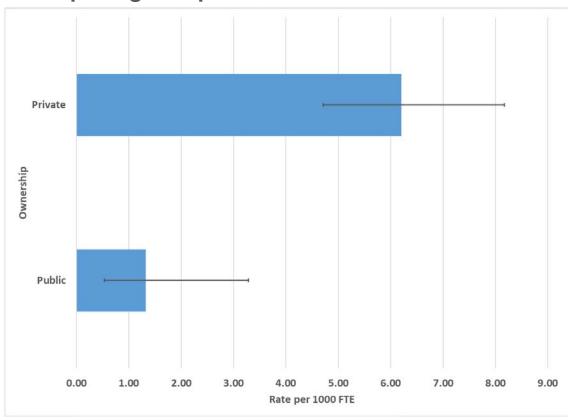
# WPV Injury Incidence Rates and 95% CIs by Yearin 105 OHSN-Participating Hospitals, 2012 - 2015



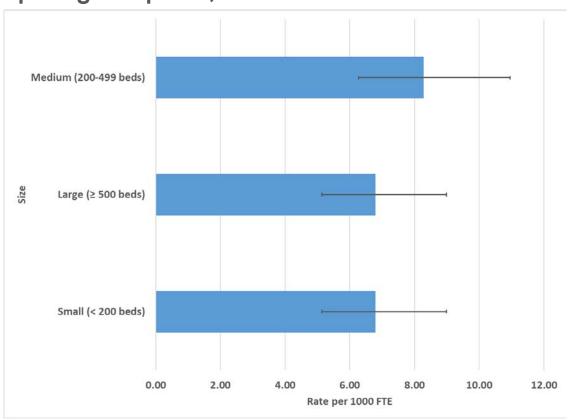
### WPV Injury Incidence Rates and 95% Cls byHospital Type in 105 OHSN-Participating Hospitals, 2012 - 2015



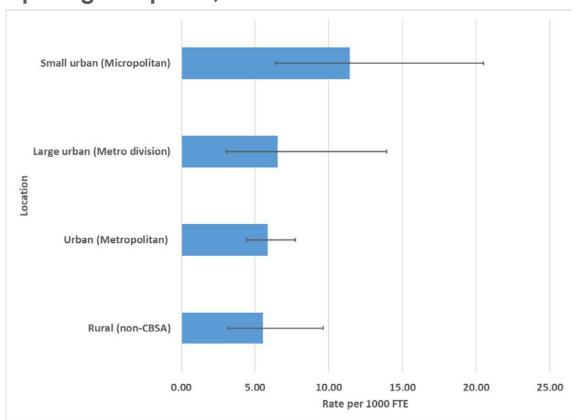
### WPV Injury Incidence Rates and 95% Cls byHospital Ownership in 105 OHSN-Participating Hospitals, 2012 - 2015



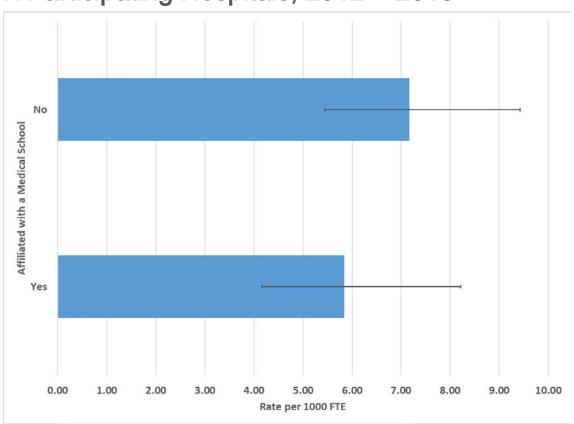
### WPV Injury Incidence Rates and 95% CIs by Hospital Size in 105 OHSN-Participating Hospitals, 2012 - 2015



### WPV Injury Incidence Rates and 95% CIs by Hospital Location in 105 OHSN-Participating Hospitals, 2012 - 2015

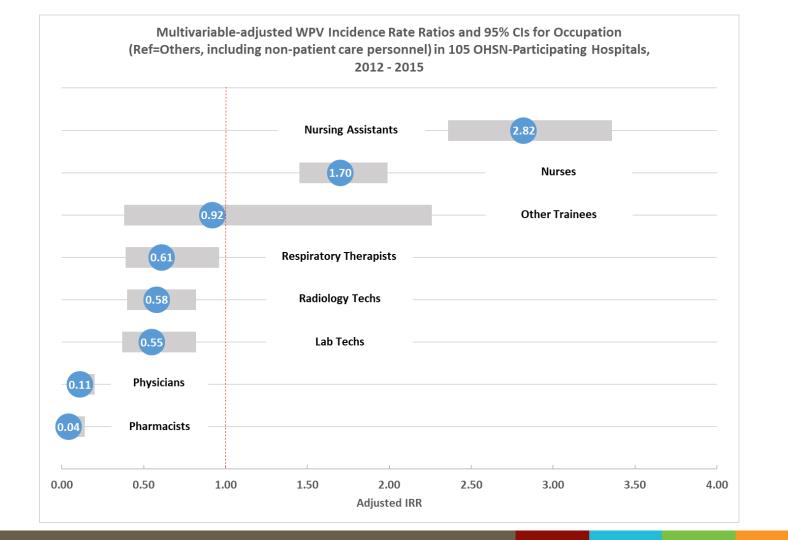


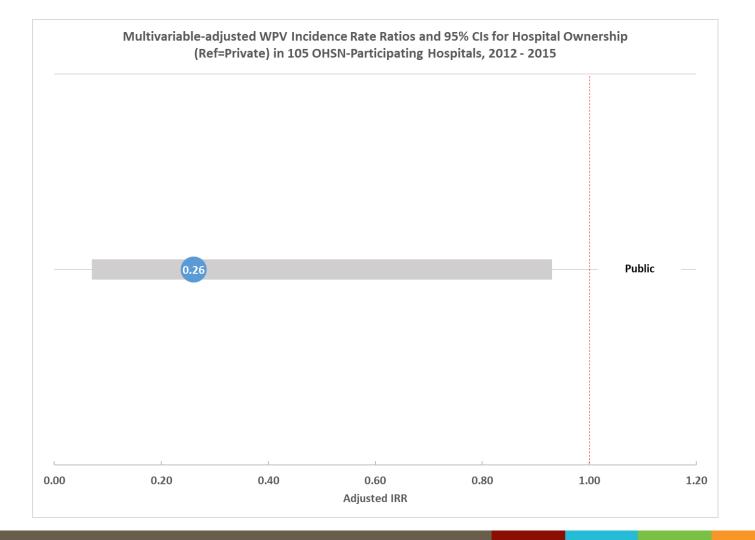
### WPV Injury Incidence Rates and 95% Cls by Medical School Affiliation in 105 OHSN-Participating Hospitals, 2012 - 2015



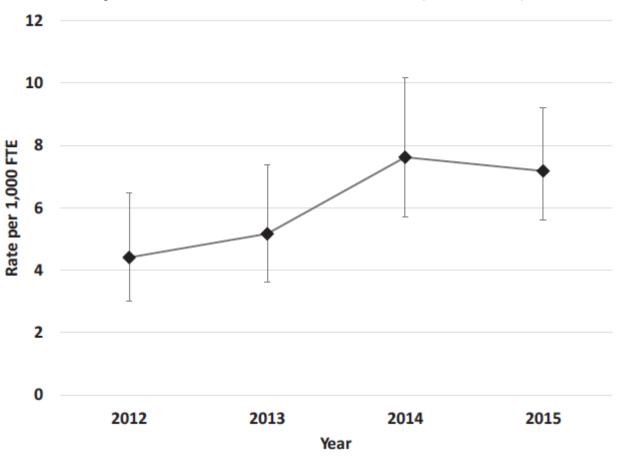
#### Results

Multivariable-Adjusted Incidence Rate Ratios





#### **Adjusted IRR for Event Year = 1.23 (1.15-1.31)**



### **Conclusions**

#### **Conclusions**

- WPV is a serious and increasing hazard in OHSN hospitals
  - 23% increase in incidence each year during the study period
- Nursing assistants and nurses were at highest risk of WPV injury
  - Nursing assistants had highest risk
  - Nurses had highest number
- Improved data collection is needed for effective surveillance (and, therefore prevention)

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

