



Let's speak very loudly: "Intimate partner violence among doctors"

Martin Hofmeister, PhD, Nutrition scientist, Department of Food and Nutrition, Consumer Centre of the German Federal State of Bavaria, Munich, Germany

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Congratulations CMAJ and Carolyn Brown! Clearly outlined prospects for urgent research on intimate partner violence (IPV) among doctors [1]. On the limited research data available, I would like to refer to the recent interesting studies by Juan Manuel Carmona-Torres of the University of Castilla-La Mancha (Ciudad Real, Spain) [2, 3].

For example, Carmona-Torres has found that the prevalence rate of IPV experienced by physicians in the different autonomous communities of Spain is 19.5%. In addition, most of the health professionals who had suffered IPV worked in primary care settings [2]. The observation that 88.5% of the study participants experienced abuse received no form of support and treatment seems dramatic. And only 26.7% of the abused health professionals have ever talked to anyone else about their IPV experience (in most cases with a person close to them, to a psychologist or to health-service personnel) [3].

Yes, we urgently need to speak out loud in the public about the need to implement concrete action and intervention plans for victim support and to start international research on IPV among physicians, nurses, midwives and allied health professionals [2, 3].

Could not a short online survey about the IPV among Canadian health professionals be launched on the CMAJ website in 2019? Or why can not a presentation on IPV against physicians be scheduled now at the upcoming 152th annual meeting of the CMA in Ontario (Aug. 11-13, 2019 - Toronto)? Perhaps speakers like Barbara Couden Hernandez or Juan Manuel Carmona-Torres would be available?

References

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3. Carmona-Torres JM, Recio-Andrade B, Rodríguez-Borrego MA. Violence committed by intimate partners of physicians, nurses and nursing assistants. *Int Nurs Rev* 2018;65(3):441-49.

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