



Fund “Nauka” Project № 23008 Resume – Competition-Based Session 2023:

“Workplace violence risk in the Bulgarian health sector”

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The **aim** of this study is to research workplace violence against healthcare workers in Bulgaria, examine its consequences, and provide evidence-based results.

The **objectives** include:

1. Conducting a comprehensive review and analysis of relevant scientific studies, strategies, and policies on the topic;
2. Researching workplace violence in the Bulgarian health sector and performing risk assessment;
3. Studying and analyzing the factors contributing to the occurrence of workplace violence and exploring strategies for its reduction;
4. Researching the impact of workplace violence on the diagnostic and treatment process;
5. Developing an instrument for studying workplace violence against medical professionals in Bulgaria;
6. Formulating conclusions and recommendations for reducing the risk of workplace violence;
7. Proposing recommendations for targeted initiatives to increase awareness.

Methods include a systematic analysis of scientific literature, a comparative analysis of strategic documents, sociological methods to explore participant opinions, and statistical methods for processing quantitative data.

The anticipated results aim to contribute in-depth knowledge on workplace violence against health professionals in Bulgaria and globally, as evidenced by the synthesis and analysis of scientific publications and strategic documents. The research will also provide insights into the risks faced by health workers and the health sector in general, offering a validated methodological toolkit. Additionally, the study will explore factors and causes of aggression, providing preventive measures in the form of recommendations to create a safe environment for medical practitioners and patients in the country.

The **expected results** of the project are related to the scientific and practical-applied contributions of the research as follows:

1. The causes and consequences of workplace violence against healthcare workers are studied, systematized and analyzed;

2. Existing strategies and policies to reduce workplace violence in healthcare are researched and analyzed, and best practices are identified;
3. Quantitative information from previous studies is analyzed;
4. A methodological toolkit for researching workplace violence in the Bulgarian health sector (a questionnaire) is developed and validated;
5. Workplace violence in the Bulgarian health sector is researched;
6. Factors leading to workplace violence against Bulgarian health workers are identified;
7. Factors contributing to the reduction of workplace violence against Bulgarian health workers are identified;
8. The impact of workplace violence in the health sector on the diagnostic and treatment process in Bulgaria is researched and analyzed;
9. The risk of workplace violence against healthcare practitioners in the country is assessed;
10. Conclusions and recommendations to reduce the risk of workplace violence in the Bulgarian healthcare are formulated;
11. Recommendations to initiate targeted awareness-raising initiatives among the general public to support efforts to improve safety conditions for healthcare workers in Bulgaria are formulated.

The **results** of the study serve as the foundation for various important purposes:

1. Publications in referred scientific journals and increasing visibility of research;
2. Participation in scientific forums;
3. Scientific potential and career development of the project team;
4. Participation in international research projects;
5. Establishing the University's reputation addressing issues related to the risk of workplace violence in the health sector in strategic decision making and policy implementation.