

Violence in Health Care & Social Assistance in BC, 2007

Fact Sheet

Violence in Health Care & Social Assistance Accepted Claims in BC

• Number of violence in health care & social assistance accepted claims in 2007 ¹	927 (12%) of all claims
• Number of violence in health care & social assistance accepted claims in 2003 ¹	680 (10%) of all claims
• Number of health workers injured due to violence claims every week in 2007	18
• Percent of claims due to violence occurring to female health workers	83%
• The average number of days lost by a health worker due to a violence claim	50
• The average age of a health worker in BC with a violence claim	42

Settings Where Claims Due to Violence Occur

• Complex Care (Long-term Care)	40%
• Short-term/Residential Social Service Facility	23%
• Acute Care	19%

The Type of Workers Most Often Injured Due to Violence

• Nurses Aides/LPNs	45%
• Community Health Workers	30%
• Registered and Psychiatric Nurses	22%

The Source of the Violent Incident

• Patient	64%
• Person, other than patient ie. family member, co-worker, etc	30%

The Age of Health Workers Most Often Injured Due to Violence

• 25 – 34 years of age	17%
• 35 – 44 years of age	41%
• 45 – 54 years of age	28%
• 55+ years of age	11%

¹ Based on claims with an injury in the year that were accepted for STD, LTD or fatal benefits by March 31 of following year.

Definition: The Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulation, section 4.27, defines **violence** as “the attempted or actual exercise by a person, other than a workers, of any physical force so as to cause injury to a worker.” Violence also includes “any threatening statement or behaviour which gives a worker reasonable cause to believe that he or she is at risk of injury.”

All data is based on non-healthcare only claims.

Data Source 1: WorkSafeBC Statistical Services, June 2008

Data Source 2: WorkSafeBC Data Warehouse, June 30, 2008