

My presentation is an attempt to probe current social view and reception of patients violence against medical professionals. The problem has a growing tendency and there is no wonder that JCN / International Council of Nurses / declared patient violence relative topics in 2001 as a worldwide current theme.

I work at Emergency Department of big teaching hospital and I consider this place as one of those that are exposed to conflicts and patient violence often. The questioning was performed via nameless answer sheets. These were given mainly to staff from Emergency Departments, Ambulance Services, Psychiatric Departments and different sorts of admitting rooms. Two hundred answer sheets were given, about 84% were answered and sent back. Major group of respondents / 41 % / were well experienced, more than 15 years working staff. Their opinion was valuable as they could compare the problem trend. The major part of them consider patient relative violence as a growing problem and attack severity too. Moreover the most of the respondents had the feeling that the level of medical professionals protection is poor and nothing had been done for years in this field.

In the end of my presentation I offer some measures that could be called into action in our hospital after the discussion with the management.