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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Healthcare Workers (HCW) provide an essential service to the community. They are also exposed to a wide range of physical, environmental and psychological hazards in the workplace and also in the field when confronted with infectious disease outbreaks, natural disasters and terrorist incidents. While HCWs commonly encounter occupational hazards such as musculoskeletal disorders, infectious diseases, percutaneous injuries, dermatological conditions and occupational stress, they are also confronted with increasing risks due to workplace violence, often exacerbated by patients under the influence of alcohol and other drugs. The risks vary depending on the HCW group, but the common theme is the need for high quality data from both workplace reporting and research. This special issue is dedicated to such themes.

Prof. Peter A. Leggat
Prof. Derek R. Smith
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