

Special Issue

The Second Victim Phenomenon: Implications and Solutions to Support Health Worker Safety

Message from the Guest Editors

Healthcare is associated with a relevant risk that may lead to avoidable harm of patients and their next of kin, the so-called first victims who should be supported best to cope with this situation. However, healthcare providers may also be harmed due to this event, needing support to move on. Second victim traumatization is clearly a common work-related trauma for healthcare workers, urging occupational medicine to foster knowledge about this phenomenon and development and implementation of evidence-based support programs to be available for all healthcare workers if needed. While somatic health worker safety has led to enormous improvement for health worker safety, it is now time to build up and distribute psychological PPE.

Papers adding relevant knowledge to all aspects of the second victim phenomenon are invited to this Special Issue.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Reinhard Strametz

Wiesbaden Institute for Healthcare Economics and Patient Safety (WiHeIP), Wiesbaden Business School, RheinMain University of Applied Sciences, 65183 Wiesbaden, Germany

Dr. Susanna Tella

Faculty of Social Services and Health Care, LAB University of Applied Sciences, 53850 Lappeenranta, Finland

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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
ijerph@mdpi.com

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Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul B. Tchounwou
RCMI Center for Urban Health Disparities Research and Innovation,
Richard N. Dixon Research Center, Morgan State University, Baltimore,
MD 21251, USA

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