

Rising Trends  
That can Impact

# Emergency Preparedness in Healthcare

## Are you ready for the future of healthcare worker safety?

Some of what's to come is predictable, such as an increase in elderly patients as the Baby Boomer generation continues to enter old age. But you may be surprised by the other factors that could pose a threat to the safety of your entire healthcare organization.

See which of today's healthcare workplace safety trends point to potential hurdles on the horizon.

## Healthcare is unprepared for a severe weather surge

Over the last 10 years, there has been an average

**14%** increase

in frequency of **natural disasters**, costing on average

**\$6.5 billion** per event



Severe weather events are reported to be **the second most common incident** to hit healthcare facilities within the last two years.

Despite the forecast, a survey of **healthcare emergency managers** found that only

**39%** held a severe weather drill **once a year**

**21%** **never ran drills** to prepare for inclement weather

But **severe weather drills** and **better preparation** is clearly needed.



**Less than half (43%)** of nurses that participated in an emergency simulation said they felt prepared to face a disaster.

**0%** of healthcare systems involved met all compliance requirements set by [The Joint Commission](#).

## Staff shortages are likely

Healthcare organizations may find themselves **short-staffed during emergencies**.

In a study, between

**10-30%**

of personnel were either **unwilling or unable to report to work** in various disaster scenarios, such as tornadoes, flooding or extreme winter weather.



**30%** of actively licensed providers are **over the age of 60**.

As these employees reach retirement, healthcare systems may **have trouble filling their open positions**.

Between now and 2024, hospitals are expected to see

**the lowest job growth at 6%.**

Registered nurses are in high demand, with over

**1 million nurses needed by 2022.**



## Employee safety is at risk



In a study of shooting incidents in a healthcare setting, employees accounted for

**20% of the victims.**

According to a survey, healthcare emergency managers are concerned with employee wellbeing, **with 34% listing active assailant incidents as their top safety concern.**

But in the same survey, only

**38%** of respondents said they only run active assailant drills once a year.

**29%** had never even had an active assailant drill.

These events don't always unfold as expected, which means you need to be prepared for every possible scenario. For example,



of shootings took place **outside on the grounds of the healthcare facility**, not in the building itself.

More employees are working remotely which means protection methods have to reach beyond a single healthcare facility.



Jobs in the home healthcare sector are expected to **increase 60% by 2024.**

Current projections indicate there will be more than **4.4 million home healthcare aids by 2028.**

## How can you prepare for these threats before they strike your healthcare organization?

Learn how running safety drills can help protect staff and patients from the most common emergencies.

**DOWNLOAD NOW**

