What are doing healthcare systems after an adverse event to protect patients' rights and to assure the quality of care

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INTRODUCTION

- > Healthcare is not exempt from mishaps that can lead to adverse events (AEs) which can impact the patient and the healthcare professional.
- > One way to maintain quality healthcare is to establish a legal framework that provides legal certainty to healthcare workers and guarantees respect for patients' rights.
- > It is thought that the involvement of professionals in the analysis of an AE is determined by the existence of a legal framework that protects them.

METHODS

- > Cross-sectional study based through an online survey of 25 questions consensus as relevant to describe the situation in each country about legal aspects related to compensation and open disclosure to patients after an AE.
- > The study was conducted in The European Researchers' Network Working on Second Victims (COST Action 19113) framework.
- > Researchers and professionals linked to this field of study from 35 countries of Europe, America and Oceania were invited to participate.
- > A **frequency analysis** was carried out with IBM SPSS Statistics.

OBJECTIVE

> This study aimed to summarize national policies, rules, and legislation that promote that healthcare professionals learning from AEs while those patients' rights are protected worldwide.

RESULTS In case of an AE, are patients systematically informed and/or apologized for? 50% Participating countries (N=21) 42.9% 40% 28.6% 30% 19.0% 20% 9.5% 10% 0% There is usually a Open disclosure It is rare cases of There is a Is there a Report System? national or local depends on the open disclosure legislation and professionals policy initiative of Usually not available have the duty to healthcare 19.0% Yes, in several inform patients professionals 28.6% healthcare Is there a National Patient Safety Agency or institutions similar institution leading a national Yes 23.8% strategy on patient safety in your Yes Yes country? No 47.6% 52.4% No 76.2% 52.4% Yes, common at Is there fair compensation or policy national level for patients harmed after an AE?

CONCLUSIONS

- > These results highlight that the existing international legal scenarios for dealing with the implications of AEs are diverse.
- > While some countries show significant advances in legislation, others are still starting to regulate.
- > Therefore, although there have been great improvements since 1999, there is still a lot to be done to achieve appropriate patient safety in each country.

If you want to know more about **The** Researchers' Network European Working on Second Victims (COST Action 19113) visit the following link.















