

Perspective on dr. davidson: 'Be like mike'

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(HealthDay)—The tragic shooting of surgeon Michael Davidson can be used as an opportunity to find meaning in tragedy, according to a perspective piece published online Feb. 5 in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Lisa Rosenbaum, M.D., a cardiologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, describes the case of a hospital-related shooting, where surgeon Michael Davidson was shot and killed by the son of a patient who had died.

Rosenbaum notes that fear pervaded the [medical community](#) in the days following the [shooting](#). However, violence against physicians is rare in the United States, with about 154 hospital-related shootings between

2000 and 2011 (physicians and nurses were victims in 3 and 5 percent of cases, respectively). She describes how a colleague spoke at the funeral and encouraged others to "be like Mike," who took on the highest risk patients, gave patients his time, and aimed to advance [clinical care](#) by working with interventional cardiologists seeking to extend lives in cases others deemed hopeless.

"To be like Mike is to fear not threats to one's safety, but the possibility of hurting others and of failing to sustain life when there is still life to be sustained. And it is to help our patients make meaning of their losses," Rosenbaum writes. "Insofar as these have always been [physicians'](#) goals and values, finding meaning in this tragedy will mean not changing at all."

More information: [Full Text](#)

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