

Pain care providers at high risk for violence

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(HealthDay)—Chronic pain care providers (CPCPs) are high risk targets for violence, according to research published online June 2 in *Pain Medicine*.

David D. Kim, M.D., from the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, and colleagues conducted an e-mail survey of members of the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians to assess violence rates against CPCPs, character/context/risk factors for violence, and [mitigation strategies](#).

The researchers found that 64.85 percent of CPCPs have called security and 51.52 percent have received threats. Just over 7 percent of the time, the threats involved a gun. Injury was reported by 2.73 percent of CPCPs. Discharging a patient was the most common risk mitigation

strategy (85.33 percent), although others reported using [protective equipment](#) (16.89 percent). Of those reporting using protective equipment, a significant percentage carried a gun (54 percent). The highest context for violence involved opioid management (89.9 percent; P

"Provider characteristics demonstrated some higher risk factors for exposure to patient violence such as older age, being male, working part time in [pain management](#), and working in specialties such as anesthesiology," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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