Workplace Violence Against Nurses Working at Emergency Departments of Public Hospitals
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BACKGROUND
Workplace violence is an alarming and devastating issue worldwide, particularly in the emergency departments. Incident of work place violence is common towards nurses in health care settings. It has become a serious threat to the safety and security of employees; exploit their dignity and respect. Violence may lead to death like serious consequences among the health care workers. Occurrence of such events where nurses and other health care workers are abused verbally, assaulted or harassed sexually. Pakistan is one of the such countries having high incidence of work place violence among nurses and at work environment. There is also another issue of poor reporting, lack of documentation and unpublished status of such violence in the health care setup.

AIM
The main purpose of this study was to assess the prevalence of work place violence including physical and non physical and bring awareness about work place violence among nurses and other health care professionals at the emergency departments of health care setting.

MATERIALS AND METHODS
A cross sectional descriptive survey was performed to assess the prevalence of work place violence at tertiary care hospitals. A convenient sample of n=147 was used to collect the data. A structured standardized adopted questionnaire was used to collect data. The questionnaire consisted demographic, physical and non physical variables. The data was collected from tertiary care hospitals. The data was analyzed on SPSS version 21.

RESULTS
The emergency nurses during study indicated that violence was a common occurrence. The percentage of violent events experienced by the nurses whether physical or non-physical are illustrated in Figure 1. The locations of the occurrence of the physical or non-physical violent events are displayed in Figure 2.

CONCLUSION
The physical violence prevalence was found less than the nonphysical violence, but physical violence is more threatening than the nonphysical violence. Continual Medical Education and awareness programs organized to advocate vulnerable situation in a work place for healthcare workers also provide trainings, support legislation to increase penalties for assailants, and provide all sorts of resources from legal to mental health support.

REFERENCES