

# A Quantitative Study on the Factors that Promote and Hinder Nurses Willingness to Report Wrongdoing to Healthcare Leadership.

<b>Authors:</b>	Azhari, Reem
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<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>As healthcare becomes more complex, patients need nurses who can advocate for their safety. This quantitative study on patient advocacy sought to understand if significant relationships existed amongst factors contributing to nurses' willingness to report wrongdoing. Factors measured were management support, knowledge of the reporting process, and experiencing and witnessing retaliation after reporting wrongdoing. Three hundred and forty one nurses from the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses (AORN) were surveyed using a 45 question survey consisting of closed ended questions, as well as Likert-type statement questions. Inferential statistical data analysis was performed and confirmed that significant relationships do exist amongst the factors measured. Due to these findings this study may be used to further explore empirical evidence linking those factors to nurses' willingness to report wrongdoing. The outcomes of this study also confirm that healthcare leadership must focus on increasing emotional intelligence as well as the communication strategies of their healthcare leadership teams. This is evident in the data showing that nurses know how to report wrongdoing, yet fear doing so due to lack of confidence on the part of their management team as well as fears of retaliation. Further studies may be warranted in the area of patient advocacy to determine if this data can be replicated across a multi-cultural and multi-generational workforce.</p>
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