

ASSAULTED WHILE ON DUTY IN 2016

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“PUNCHED WITH ENOUGH FORCE” TO KNOCK ME OVER”

“I entered a patient’s room who was in bed. After a conversation with her I turned to leave the room and was punched in the back of my head with enough force to knock me over. She began pulling my hair and ripping handfuls out as she proceeded to bash my head against the wall and the floor. I was punched multiple times in the head. I lost consciousness for a period of time as I waited for assistance. The visible injury was a black eye and a significant amount of hair pulled out. The unseen injuries include a concussion, whip lash, anxiety and insomnia.

My experience is an all too real reminder of how fast something can happen and the unfortunate reality that this is considered “acceptable behavior”. Had this person done this exact thing to me in a grocery store or on the street it would be a felony assault, but because it took place inside a health care facility it is just “part of the job.”



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*Improving
Workplace Safety
for Healthcare Workers*



Montana Nurses Association

20 Old MT State Hwy

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**For more information:
www.mtnurses.org**

Did You Know?



The injury rate for workplace
violence has been

increasing,

even as the overall injury and
illness rate in the U.S. has been

decreasing.



Source: AFL-CIO Death on the Job Report, April 2016