WHO SHOT YA? HOW EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS CAN COLLECT RELIABLE POLICING SHOOTING DATA

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To date, there is no reliable data on how many people are fatally and nonfatally shot by the police every year. One alternative emergency department resource for collecting reliable police shooting data are Hospital Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs).

PATIENT NAME

The lack of reliable data has significantly resulted in the FBI underreporting the number of police-involved homicides.

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PATIENT ADDRESS

Prince George’s Hospital Trauma Center, Maryland, USA

Attitudinal

Trauma staff expressed a reluctance and unwillingness for hospitals to cooperate with collecting detailed data on police-involved shootings. Others believe the hospital should ask and document whether the shooting was the result of someone else or was it by the police.

Logistical

Some trauma nurses expressed confidence in a hospital’s ability to collect standardized data on shootings. However, they perceived police presence at the hospital as a significant barrier to data collection.

Ethical

Trauma staff overwhelmingly agreed that the hospital has an ethical responsibility to record and report police-involved shootings.

Legal

The legal ramifications associated with collecting police shooting data were the most consistently discussed issues among staff. Trauma staff nurses expressed reluctance in delving too far into the circumstances of the shooting, fearing that they may be in violation of the law.

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Use compatible approach for every emergency department intervention

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