

# HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARDS AT HOSPITALS

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Health and safety in hospitals are paramount for both patients and staff. Hospitals may be at high risk where exposure to various hazards can lead to severe consequences, including illnesses, injuries, and even fatalities.

## 2 HAZARDS & RELATED RISK

1. Radiation exposure  
Cancer, eye damage, skin damage
2. Violence & aggression  
Mental stress or physical injuries
3. Waste management  
Infectious/sharp/confidential waste
4. Slips, trips, & falls  
Minor and major injuries
5. Chemical exposure  
Poisoning, burns, respiratory issues
6. Fatigue at workplace  
Effecting the productivity at workplace



## 4 SOLUTIONS

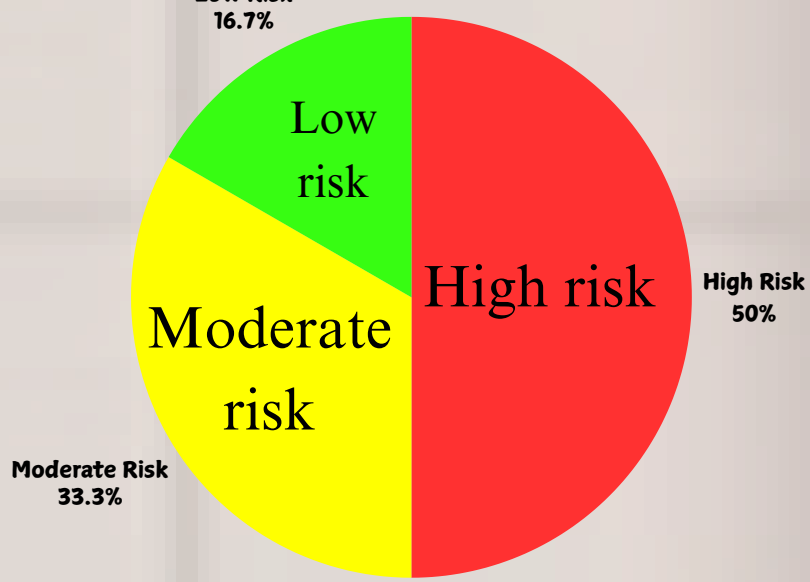
HAZARDS	SOLUTIONS TO POTENTIAL HAZARDS
Radiation exposure	Use of shielding (e.g., lead aprons), regular equipment maintenance, staff training on radiation safety.
Violence and aggression	Implementation of safe and secure protocols, staff training on conflict resolution, availability of supporting staff.
Waste management	Safe disposal of waste, staff & patient instructions through sign boards.
Slips ,trips & falls	Use of non-slip floor mats, clear walkways, place sign boards for wet/slippery surfaces, regular cleaning.
Chemical exposure	Proper labeling of chemicals, well ventilation, safe storage, use of PPE like gloves and goggles.
Workplace fatigue	Implementing flexible work schedule, avoid forced labour promoting rest.

## 6 CONCLUSION

- Minimizing risks
- Safeguarding lives
- Exacerbates efficiency
- Collective responsibility
- Safe & secure environment

## 3 RISK ANALYSIS & PRIORITIZATION

- High Risk:**  
Radiation exposure, violence & aggression, waste management
- Moderate Risk:**  
Slips, trips, falls and chemical exposure
- Low Risk:**  
Workplace fatigue



## 5 STATISTICS

- Workplace fatigue**
- Fatigue is linked to high risk of accidents and long term health issues (about 20-25% of all workplace accidents) [1].
- Slips, trips & falls**
- Approximately 700 deaths annually are attributed to work place fall.
  - Over 5 years this totals 3500 deaths [1].
- Violence and aggression**
- OSHA estimates about 20,000 injuries due to violence in healthcare [2].

- Radiation exposures**
- 0.1 million deaths each year globally due to radiation related diseases (particularly cancer) [2].
- Waste management**
- Poor medical waste handling contributes to 10,000-15,000 deaths annually (particularly in under- resourced areas) [3].
- Chemical exposure**
- 2 million deaths annually are due to chemical exposure (out of which 50,000 are in healthcare).
  - Over 5 years this equals to 250,000 deaths [3].

## 7 REFERENCE

[1] [<https://www.osha.com/blog/slips-trips-falls-prevention>]  
[2] [<https://ohsonline.com/articles/2015/11/01/a-spill-a-slip.aspx>]  
[3] [<https://www.who.int/europe/news/item/01-07-2024-protecting-health-from-hazardous-chemicals--european-countries-agree-on-regional-priorities>]