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## [7.2] Chronic Stress Burnout

**1. Operational Definition:** A state of emotional, physical, and mental exhaustion caused by prolonged and excessive stress, leading to reduced efficacy, cynicism, and a significant drop in security task performance and vigilance.

### 2. Main Metric & Algorithm:

- **Metric: Chronic Stress Score (CSS).** Formula:  $CSS = (PTO\_USE * 0.4) + (TICKET\_OVERTIME * 0.3) + (SENTIMENT\_SCORE * 0.3)$ .

- **Pseudocode:**

python

```
def calculate_css(employee_id, start_date, end_date):
    # Data Collection
    pto_use = query_hr_system(employee_id, start_date, end_date).sick_days_used
    ticket_overtime = query_ticketing_system(employee_id, start_date, end_date).avg_ticket

    # Perform sentiment analysis on team channel messages by the employee
    employee_messages = query_slack_api(employee_id, start_date, end_date)
    sentiment_score = analyze_sentiment(employee_messages) # Returns a score from -1 (neg

    # Normalize inputs to a 0-10 scale for weighting
    norm_pto = min(10, pto_use / 2) # e.g., 20 days = score of 10
    norm_overtime = min(10, ticket_overtime / 5) # e.g., 50 after-hours tickets = score of 10
    norm_sentiment = (1 - sentiment_score) * 5 # Map -1 to 10, 1 to 0

    # Calculate weighted CSS
    css = (norm_pto * 0.4) + (norm_overtime * 0.3) + (norm_sentiment * 0.3)
    return css
```

- **Alert Threshold:**  $CSS > 6.5$  for two consecutive weeks.

### 3. Digital Data Sources (Algorithm Input):

- **HR System API (e.g., Workday):** employee\_id, sick\_days\_used.
- **Ticketing System API (e.g., Jira):** assignee, created\_time, resolution\_time. Filter for tickets closed outside of standard working hours.
- **Communication Platform API (e.g., Slack):** user, message, timestamp. Access requires strict ethical oversight and anonymization.

**4. Human-to-Human Audit Protocol:** Conduct confidential, anonymous pulse surveys using standardized tools like the Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI) or a simplified 5-question Likert scale survey: “I feel emotionally drained from my work,” “I feel burned out from my work,” “I feel tired when I get up in the morning and have to face another day at work,” “I feel I’m working too hard on my job,” “I feel frustrated by my job.”

## 5. Recommended Mitigation Actions:

- **Technical/Digital Mitigation:** Implement a dashboard for managers to monitor team CSS aggregates (never individuals) and trigger alerts.
- **Human/Organizational Mitigation:** Enforce mandatory use of vacation time. Provide access to confidential counseling services (EAP). Redistribute workload.
- **Process Mitigation:** Introduce “focus time” blocks with no alert assignments. Review and adjust shift rotation schedules to be less disruptive.