

EVERYONE HAS A ROLE IN CREATING AND MAINTAINING A

RESPECTFUL WORKPLACE



IN THIS E-LEARNING MODULE, YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT:

- How a respectful work environment benefits everyone at the BCHS
- What a respectful workplace looks and feels like
- What disruptive behaviour is
- How to prevent disruptive behaviour
- What to do when disruptive behaviour occurs
- What we're doing to keep staff and patients safe

IN A RESPECTFUL WORKPLACE....

- Patients experience **BETTER OUTCOMES**
- PATIENT SAFETY and EXPERIENCE is vastly improved
- Staff experience MORE AND BETTER COLLABORATION
- STAFF SATISFACTION is high
- Sick calls are low, **RETENTION IS HIGH**, recruitment is easy
- The focus is on HIGH QUALITY PATIENT CARE
- Everyone feels, and is, SAFE



DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOUR MEANS:

The use of inappropriate words, actions or inactions by a person that interferes with an individual's ability to function well with others

THIS BEHAVIOUR ALSO INTERFERES WITH:

Quality health care delivery, patient or workplace safety, recruitment or retention of staff or the cost of providing health care



ARE UNWELCOME, HARMFUL, AND DEMEANING!

They can take place in any type or combination of relationships, including those involving employees, patients, physicians, students, or volunteers.

EVENTS ARE DEFINED AS DISRUPTIVE NOT BY THE PERSON ENGAGING IN THE BEHAVIOUR, BUT BY THE PERSON EXPERIENCING THE BEHAVIOUR. REMEMBER – PERCEPTION IS KEY



FORMS OF DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOUR

They can occur in many different ways and stages within the workplace.



There are three Severity Stages that range from uncivil behaviour such as inappropriate language to behaviours that would involve mandatory reporting to Hospital Administration or outside organizations such as the police.



Uncivil Behaviour: Seemingly insignificant behaviours that are rude, disrespectful, discourteous or insensitive, where the intent to harm is ambiguous or unclear.

Examples of Uncivil Behaviour: Comments that are demeaning, angry outbursts or the use of profanity.



ABUSE: Any behaviours which include psychological abuse, sexual abuse or verbal abuse which causes the person to

- believe their health and safety is at risk
- provokes fear or diminishes an individual's dignity or selfworth

or

• that intentionally inflicts psychological harm, injury or illness



DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOURS



Examples of Abuse: Belittling a person's opinions publicly; physical abuse of fellow workers or patients; or persistent and unjustified criticism.



WORKPLACE VIOLENCE: Any use of physical force, attempt to use physical force, or statements of behaviour that is reasonable for a worker to interpret as a threat against another in the workplace that causes or could cause physical injury or psychological harm, injury or illness.

Examples: Pushing a coworker into a locker, ending an argument by saying "Watch out – I know where you live."



HARASSMENT: Engaging in a course of distressing or offensive comments or conduct that is known or ought to be known to be unwelcome.

- There is a pattern to the behaviour **DISCRIMINATION**:

the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of ethnicity, age, sex, or disability.

Examples: Making jokes based on sexual orientation or ethnicity; forwarding slandering email messages



SEXUAL HARASSMENT: A course of distressing or offensive comments or conduct based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression that is unwelcome or should reasonably be known to be unwelcome.

Examples: A patient calling a nurse "sexy"; coworkers sharing stories of intimate exploits; a pattern of 'accidental' touching (brushing up against, leaning over, etc.) or unwanted intentional touching (hugs, back rubs, etc.)



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

Coercive/violent behaviour used to gain power and control over another, including physical violence, sexual, financial, emotional and psychological intimidation, verbal abuse, stalking or use of electronic devices to harass the victim/survivor.

> Examples: An estranged spouse calling to see whether their spouse is working, a spouse or partner not allowing a BCHS member to come to work.



"BCHS will not tolerate any type of violence or harassment within the Workplace or during workrelated activities and recognizes the right of staff to freedom from Workplace Harassment because of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, or other characteristics as set out in the Ontario Human Rights Code."

BCHS Workplace Harassment and Violence Prevention Policy 2018

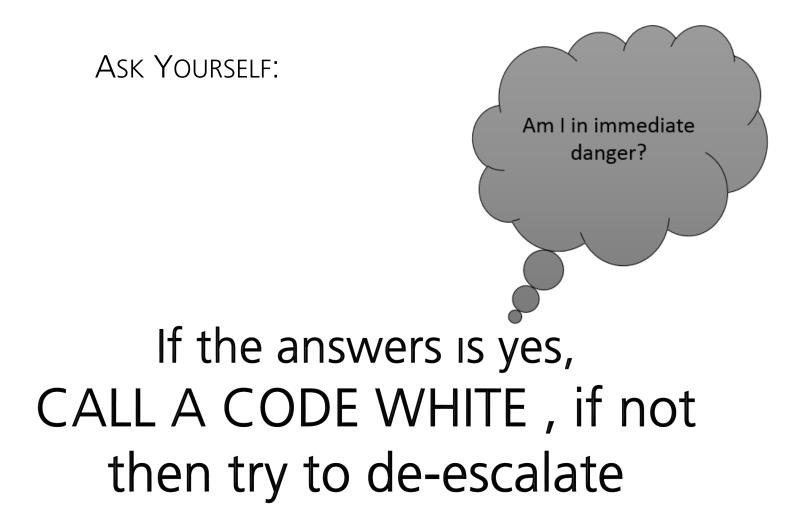


DE-ESCALATION/DIFFUSION

- Notice signs of increasing anxiety i.e. pacing, fidgeting, intense stares
- Listen to your intuition—respond before the situation escalates
- Avoid a **confrontational stance** (arms crossed, directly oppositional) or **tone** (demanding, sarcastic)
- Find common ground you both can agree on
- Firmly describe limits and options



WHEN DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOUR OCCURS





WHEN DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOUR OCCURS

If there is no immediate danger, the employee is expected to attempt to address the concerns with the other party as a first step. Use these strategies:

- Initiate a conversation
- Offer to go to a **safe**, **private place** to discuss the problem.
- Ensure both parties are in agreement to discuss
- Listen and attempt to understand the issue causing distress to the other person
- Avoid behaviours that could escalate the situation
- Advise the other party that the behaviour is unwelcome and needs to stop



THE CONVERSATION

- Watch the tone, volume, rate and rhythm of your speech—avoid a confrontational approach
- Ask reflective questions about the **'facts'** of the situation. Ensure other party understands that the behaviour is unwelcome.
- Listen actively and empathetically
- Propose alternative solutions for the perceived problem
- Accept feedback or criticism in a professional and open manner



THE FORMULA

Try using this formula when asking someone to stop or change their behaviour:

"When you _____, it makes me feel ______ and think_____. I really want to work well with you, and I can't if this behaviour continues. I need you to stop"

"When you made that joke about me, it made me feel humiliated and it made me think that my work here isn't valued. I really want to work well with you and I can't if you continue to talk to me this way. I need you to stop"

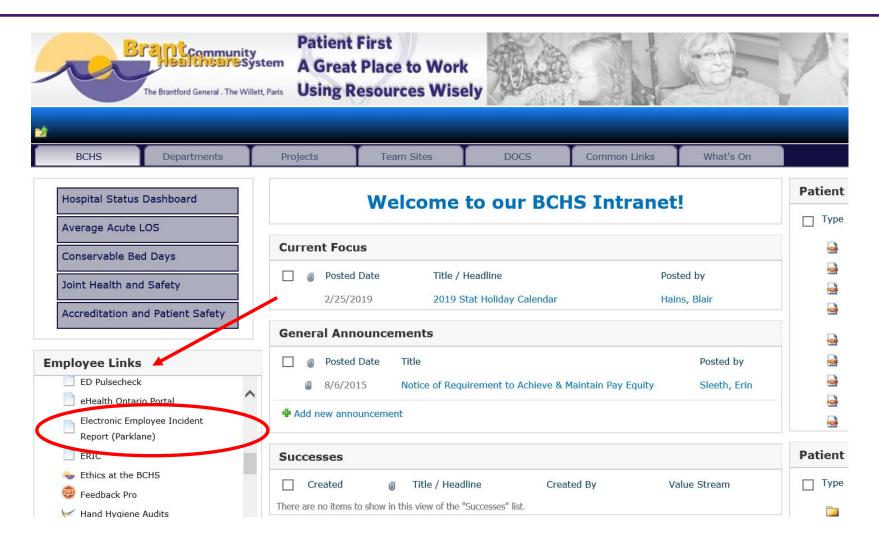


If you don't feel comfortable or safe to discuss the behaviour with the person responsible for it, or if the behaviour continues after feedback has been provided, you need to **report it** to your Manager and complete a Parklane.

The **Parklane** software, which can be accessed from any desktop in the BCHS sites through the Intranet.



Where to find Parklane





Choose the Incident Reporting—Violence and Harassment Report

parklane	Web Extensions
Available Web Forms	
Incident Reporting - Employee Incident Report	
Incident Reporting Supervisor Incident Report	
 Incident Reporting - Violence and Harassment Report	



REPORTING DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOUR



When reporting, provide as much information as you can, including details about date, time, location and any witnesses who will be able to help with the investigation.



INVESTIGATING DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the severity of the complaint the approach will vary. It could be investigated by Management of the unit/dept. or escalated to HR.

In serious cases, both parties and any witnesses are interviewed, and all data is reviewed.

What happens next depends on the report's findings and the severity of the behaviour.

The range of possible outcomes will vary from required training or coaching for the person involved, to outright dismissal.



CONFIDENTIALITY AND WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION

All who participate in a Parklane investigation are held to strict confidentiality requirements, and may be subject to disciplinary action for non compliance.

Anyone who reports disruptive behaviour is protected from potential repercussions or retaliation by the **BCHS Whistleblower Policy**.

Likewise, all staff, physicians, students and volunteers are protected from malicious and unfounded reports.



Bill 168, which came into effect in June 2010, requires employers to assess the risks of workplace violence and develop:

- Violence and harassment policies and programs to protect workers
- Employee reporting and incident investigation procedures
- Emergency response procedures and protection against violence and domestic violence in the workplace
- Processes to deal with incidents, complaints and threats of violence



WHAT WE'RE DOING TO KEEP STAFF AND PATIENTS SAFE

At BHCS, we have many policies to protect the safety and security of our staff, physicians, students, volunteers, patients and visitors. They can be found in:

- 1. The BCHS Code of Conduct
- Procedures in the Workplace Harassment and Violence Prevention Program: Workplace Harassment and Violence Prevention Risk Assessment Procedure

Code White Procedure Post Incident Response Process Reporting & Investigation Procedure Domestic Violence Policy Mitigation Steps Workplace Harassment and Violence Prevention Training Procedure Record Keeping Requirements



These policies and processes are directly supported by the Human Resources, Organizational Health and Safety, Quality, Risk & Patient Relations, SADV and Organizational Development Departments, **and are lived by all Departments** in the BCHS.

BCHS is committed to the provision of a safe, healthy, secure and respectful workplace.

Any member who has been exposed to, or witnessed any form of workplace harassment or violence will be supported through all aspects of the event including reporting, investigating, the follow-up and treatment and/or corrective action stages.



YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

As a member of the **BCHS community**, whether you're a physician, volunteer, student or employee, you are expected to contribute to a respectful workplace by:

- Treating everyone with **respect**
- Recognizing and valuing diversity
- Providing and receiving feedback in a professional way
- Keeping your emotions in control when you're under stress
- Seeking help in dealing with excessive stress
- Refraining from disruptive behaviour
- **Reporting** disruptive behaviour where appropriate
- Modelling positive, collaborative behaviour



If you are in need of support, you can reach out to:

 Your manager or supervisor
Human Resources
Organizational Health and Safety
Organizational Development
Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Team

