



THE IMPACT OF NURSE OUTCOMES ON NURSE-PERCEIVED PATIENT OUTCOMES IN SOUTH AFRICAN HOSPITALS

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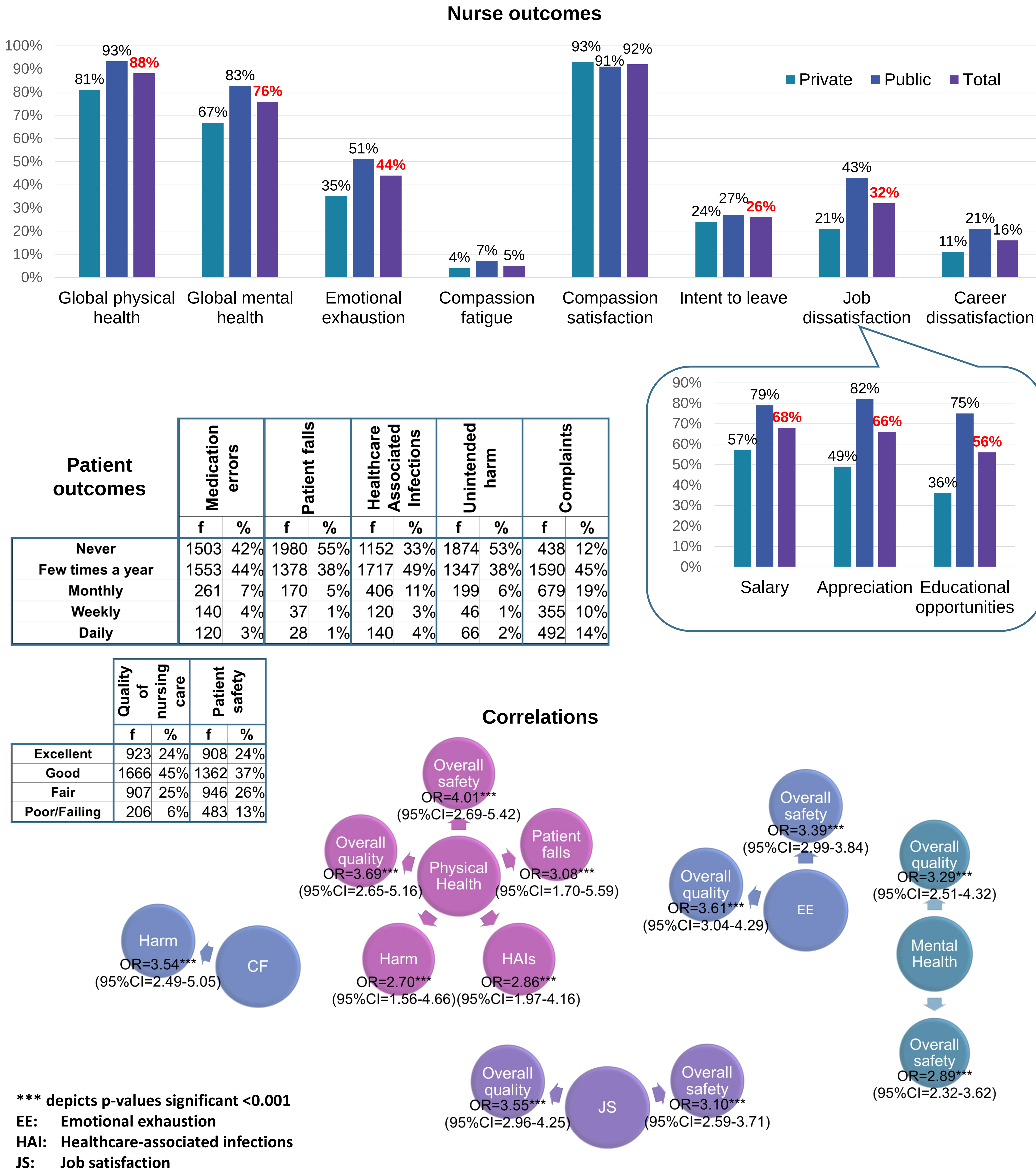
INTRODUCTION

Patient safety and quality of care remain global top healthcare priorities (WHO, 2022). Internationally, nurse outcomes such as poor physical and mental health (Melnik *et al.* 2021), emotional exhaustion (Liu *et al.* 2019), compassion fatigue (Ryu & Shim 2022), job satisfaction (Liu *et al.* 2019) and intent to leave (Catania *et al.* 2024) are recognized as factors impeding quality of care and patient safety. However, safety lapses within the developing world are still almost exclusively defined as nurse failures, notwithstanding the confounding patient safety variables such as depleted human and physical resources (Peters *et al.* 2020). In support of the international notion of nurse wellbeing impacting patient outcomes, these nurse outcomes' correlation with patient outcomes within the developing world context needed exploration.

AIM

To determine the relationship between nurse outcomes and patient outcome perceptions in private and public hospitals of South Africa

RESULTS



METHOD

- A cross-sectional survey design was applied.
- Data were collected in all nine provinces of South Africa from April 2021 - June 2022.

SAMPLING:

Private hospitals	Public hospitals
4 largest hospital groups 116 hospitals	- Largest central/tertiary hospital in province, and closest regional and district hospital 27 hospitals
- All-inclusive sampling of in-patient units - All RNs/MS, community service nurses, enrolled nurses and midwives, and auxiliary nurses (Total n=4 298) 2083 nurses 2215 nurses	

DATA COLLECTION:

- Private hospitals – online self-report survey data
- Public hospitals – paper-based self-report survey data

DATA COLLECTION TOOL:

- Maslach Burnout Inventory measures on emotional exhaustion
- Job and career turnover intent items
- Job and career satisfaction: general items and ten items measuring specific aspects of job satisfaction
- PROMIS-10 (Patient-Reported Measurement Information System) items measuring global health (physical and mental)
- RN4CAST items on overall grade on patient safety and quality of care and five adverse events items

DATA ANALYSIS:

- Descriptive statistics (frequencies, percentages, means, standard deviations)
- Inferential statistics (Cramer's Vs, 2-way ANOVA type Higher Linier Modelling, odds ratios)

CONCLUSIONS

- Most South African nurses exhibit symptoms of ill health, both physical and mental, more than what is reported internationally (Melnik *et al.*, 2021).
- Emotional exhaustion exacerbates many nurses' mental health symptoms.
- Job dissatisfaction and intent to leave statistics further impede nurses' functionality (Liu *et al.*, 2019 & Catania *et al.*, 2024).
- In order to prioritize patient safety and quality of care, above nurse outcomes should be addressed, as it is correlated with patient outcomes such as patient safety, quality of care, and certain adverse events.
- Wellness strategies aimed at nurses' wellness (physical, mental and emotional) is of paramount importance in preventing a mass exodus from the nursing profession as well as prioritizing patient safety and quality of care. Addressing nurses' job satisfaction by attending to their need for appreciation, might be a viable and effective strategy in mitigating both negative nurse- and patient outcomes.**

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