

VIOLENT ATTACKS ON PROFESSIONALS

Emergency and Psychiatry confirm physical assaults in healthcare centers

Abuses can come from patients with psychiatric disorders or who assault without any motivation

EL PERIÒDIC/L.G.R

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Attacks on healthcare professionals have acquired a growing presence in the social debate. Faced with this reality, the head of Emergency, Dr. Ivette Ruiz, and the interim head of Mental Health, Dr. Rosario Pérez, have confirmed to EL PERIÒDIC that «physical assaults, unfortunately, exist» in the facilities of the Andorran Health Care Service (SAAS) healthcare centers.

According to the heads of the Emergency and Mental Health services, these two areas are the ones that suffer the most from acts of violence, both by patients and by some companions. They highlighted that abuse could come from people with psychiatric disorders, from patients dissatisfied with their admission, from individuals under the influence of narcotics or, even, from people who attack without any apparent clinical motivation.

Ruiz and Pérez explained that these attacks are mainly classified into two categories: “justified” and “gratuitous”. All incidents are evaluated by the Occupational Violence Commission, a working group responsible for managing these cases. This classification is based, above all, on the state in which the person who commits the violent act is that justifies the behavior.

“The problem is that we have a very high degree of tolerance and, often, we pass situations



The head of emergency services, Dr. Ivette Ruiz, and the interim head of Mental Health, Dr. Rosario Pérez.

THE CLASSIFICATION

- 1 JUSTIFIED** are those carried out by a psychiatric patient in a moment of emotional exaltation.
- 2 GRATUITOUS** are caused by a person without any clinical cause that justifies this behavior

that should be reported”, says Pérez. Furthermore, she points out that “the main problem is that many of these attacks against healthcare workers cannot be reported criminally and are considered ‘minor misconduct’, which means that they remain without a strong response, leaving the victim in a helpless situation”. Finally, Ruiz stresses that this situation “must not be allowed to happen”, calling for a clearer regulatory framework that protects professionals from possible violent acts.

Attacks on professionals/ It should be remembered that a

few months ago, La Comella prison became one of the epicenters of attacks, especially against prison workers. Everything erupted when a 24-year-old man attacked two guards who were trying to restrain a prisoner who refused to be transferred to another area of the center. This fact, while seemingly an isolated episode, highlights –along with the attacks on healthcare workers– the current problem in some professional sectors, in which workers find themselves in situations of vulnerability in front of those they provide a service to. ●

ANALYSIS REQUESTED FROM ANDORRA RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

The Forum collects cross-border results to enhance the study

The objective is to promote the participation of young people in the development of mobility between countries

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The Youth Forum has set out two strategic lines in the last trans-Pyrenean days: promoting the participation of young people and shine on the development of cross-border mobility, as well as learning about the results that facilitate the development of tasks related to employment and youth labor rights. The event, jointly organized by Andorra and La Seu d'Urgell, has been configured as a space for exchanging experiences and disseminating good practices, within the framework of the European interregional program POCTEFA, Trampoline 2, which aims to promote cross-border mobility between Spain, France and Andorra.

During the day, still pending the definition of the roadmap of the collaboration point, the Forum received a very preliminary presentation of the project presented, as well as a detailed explanation of the framework and objectives that govern the activities. Likewise, the pro-



Trans-Pyrenean Conference organized by Andorra and La Seu d'Urgell.

gram for the Alt Pirineu was presented, which, although the forum does not have direct access to subsidies, plays a prominent role in the interterritorial dynamics between the three territories.

As the director of the Youth Forum, Anthony Francome, explained to EL PERIÒDIC, «we participated in the days because they asked us if we had a good practice to share with the rest of the network», underlining the

dual focus of helping and collecting results to incorporate them in the next report for 2025. Francome also highlighted the need to generate a knowledge network that promotes dialogue between all the actors involved in the trans-Pyrenean projects.

For her part, the youth technician of the Alt Urgell Regional Council, Ingrid Colilles, has highlighted difficulties in aspects such as access to residence and residence in the cross-border



ANTHONY FRANCOME

DIRECTOR OF THE FORUM

“It is the continuation of a project that already existed, the Trampoline, which was to facilitate cross-border mobility”

“We participated in the conference because they asked us if we had a good practice to share”

context, emphasizing that having efficient public transport is a significant advantage in terms of mobility and environmental sustainability, referring in this regard to the tram project presented at the POCTEFA.

STUDY WITH AR+I ON LABOR RIGHTS // On the other hand, the Youth Forum has initiated a study in collaboration with AR+I that aims to analyze, from the perspective of labor rights, the reality surrounding the cross-border mobility of young people. The study, which will include data collected from surveys conducted during the conference, is scheduled to be presented on various dates until 2025. The initiative aims to provide first-hand information that will allow the forum to carry out its tasks in the field of employment and labor rights. ●

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