

# The Importance of a Violence Prevention Program for Home Health Companies



800.362.3363 | [info@vginsurance.com](mailto:info@vginsurance.com)

Home healthcare is a vital service that provides medical care and support to patients in their own homes. While this service is essential for many people, it can also be a dangerous job for home healthcare workers. In fact, home healthcare workers are more likely to experience violence on the job than workers in any other industry.

Violence can take many forms, including physical assault, verbal abuse, and even theft. The effects of violence on home healthcare workers can be severe, ranging from physical injuries to long-term psychological harm. This is why it's so important for home health companies to implement a violence prevention program.

## **What is a violence prevention program?**

A violence prevention program should be comprehensive and include training for both employees and patients. For employees, this training should cover topics such as how to recognize and report incidents of violence, how to handle violent situations, and how to protect themselves while on the job. Patients should also receive training on how to communicate effectively with their home healthcare workers and how to manage their own behavior to reduce the risk of violence.

Additionally, home health companies should have clear policies in place for dealing with incidents of violence. This should include procedures for reporting incidents, investigating them, and taking appropriate action to prevent future incidents.

## **How do I implement a violence prevention program?**

Implementing a violence prevention program can have many benefits for home health companies. For example, it can improve the safety of employees, reduce the risk of lawsuits and other legal actions, and even lower Workers' Compensation premiums.

A safe workplace not only helps to reduce the likelihood of workplace incidents, but it also shows insurance companies that the company is proactive in preventing workplace violence, which can result in lower insurance costs. If you need help implementing a workplace violence prevention program, consider following these 10 steps:

1. Assign responsibility and authority
2. Establish a written workplace violence prevention policy statement
3. Work with employee assistance programs (EAP) or a social service counseling agency
4. Identify job category exposure to workplace violence
5. Conduct a workplace security analysis
6. Establish a working relationship with law enforcement
7. Develop good hiring and termination practices
8. Implement training programs for new and transferred employees
9. Provide education on warning signs and how to report them
10. Develop a process for incident reporting, investigation, follow-up, and evaluation

## What else do I need to know?

A violence prevention program is essential for home health companies. By providing training, implementing clear policies, and promoting a culture of safety, home health companies can ensure that their employees are protected and that they can provide the highest quality care to their patients, while also benefitting from lower Workers' Compensation premiums.

At VGM Insurance, we have developed an exclusive Workers' Compensation product specifically designed for the home healthcare industry. To learn how VGM can help you reduce the risk of injury for your employees, contact us today at [info@vgminsurance.com](mailto:info@vgminsurance.com) or call us at **800-362-3363**.