

Chronic hospital nurse understaffing meets COVID-19: an observational study.

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Lasater KB, Aiken LH, Sloane DM, et al. Chronic hospital nurse understaffing meets COVID-19: an observational study. *BMJ Qual Saf.* 2021;8(8):639-647. doi:10.1136/bmjqs-2020-011512.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/chronic-hospital-nurse-understaffing-meets-covid-19-observational-study>

This study used survey data from nurses and patients in 254 hospitals in New York and Illinois between December 2019 and February 2020 to determine the association between [nurse staffing](#) and outcomes, patient experience, and nurse [burnout](#). A significant number of nurses who experienced burnout viewed their hospitals' safety unfavorably and would not recommend their hospital. Analyses indicated that each additional patient per nurse increased the odds of unfavorable reports from nurses and patients and demonstrates the implications of understaffing, even before COVID-19.