


**PREHOSPITAL DELIVERY OF DEATH NOTIFICATIONS
ASSOCIATED WITH HIGHER RATES OF
OCCUPATIONAL BURNOUT AMONG EMS PROFESSIONALS**

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**National Registry of
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BACKGROUND METHODS RESULTS DISCUSSION CONCLUSION

Disclosures

- None




Death Notification and Burnout

BACKGROUND METHODS RESULTS DISCUSSION CONCLUSION

Death Notification

- EMS professionals must often undertake the difficult task of delivering the news of a death.
- Training related to delivering bad news uncommon for EMS professionals.
- Lack of training related to death notification may exacerbate stress and lead to burnout.




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Burnout

- Characterized by extreme emotional and physical exhaustion
- Often results in a loss of commitment to one's work
- Linked to serious mental and physical conditions
- Linked to workforce issues: turnover and absence



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Objective

Assess the relationship between death notification, training, and work-related burnout in EMS.

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Design & Study Population

- Target population
 - Nationally-certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and paramedics
- Design
 - Cross-sectional questionnaire administered in April 2017
- Sample size calculation
 - Random sample of 19,330 EMTs and paramedics

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Primary Outcome: Work-Related Burnout

- Copenhagen Burnout Inventory (CBI)
 - Freely available
 - 19-item validated instrument
 - Consists of 3 Dimensions

Personal Burnout Work-Related Burnout Patient-Related Burnout

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Independent Variables

- Self-reported # of adult death notifications in past 12 months
- Self-reported training related to death notification

- Confounding variables adjusted for:
 - Certification level
 - Years of EMS experience
 - Agency type
 - Call volume

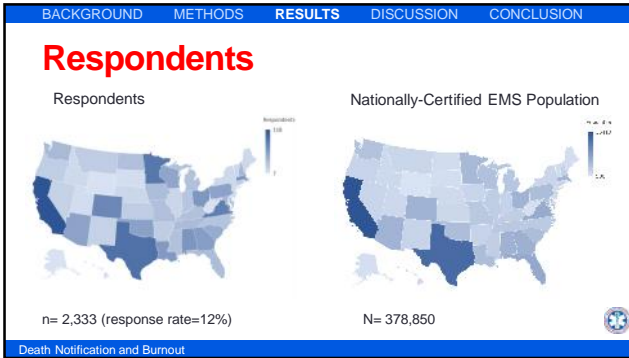
Death Notification and Burnout

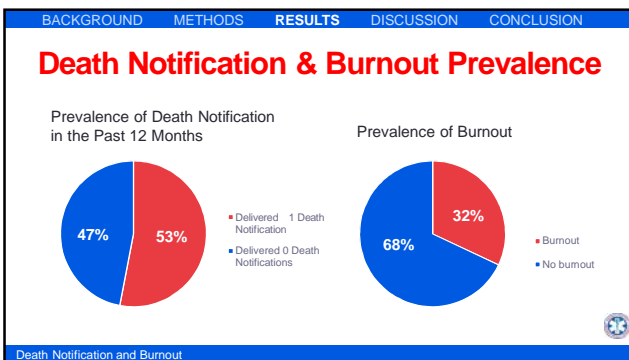
BACKGROUND METHODS RESULTS DISCUSSION CONCLUSION

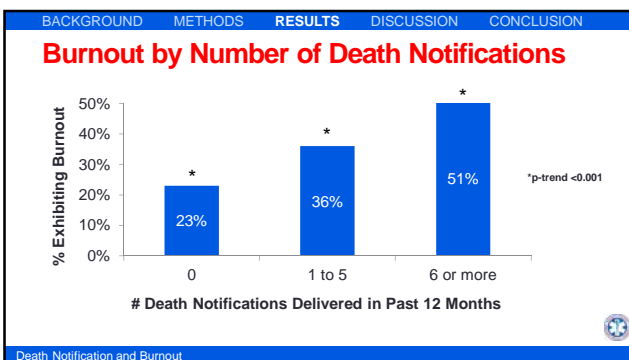
Data Analysis

- Descriptive statistics
- Multivariable logistic regression modeling
 - Confounders selected a priori
 - Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness-of-fit test

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Multivariable Results

Association of Delivering Death Notifications with Work-Related Burnout

	Work-Related Burnout OR, (95% CI)*
Delivered 1 Death Notification	1.47, (1.12-1.94)
Death Notification Training	0.60, (0.47-0.77)

*Adjusted for: Certification level, Years of EMS experience, Agency type, Call volume
H-L goodness-of-fit: p=0.25



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Limitations

- Cross-sectional analysis
- Self-reported data
- Response bias

Strengths

- National data set
- Controlled for confounding variables




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Conclusions

- Delivering death notifications associated with burnout.
- Training was associated with lower odds of burnout.
- Future prospective research is needed to explore causes of this relationship.



Death Notification and Burnout



THANK YOU!
