



## CONSEQUENCES OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WITH POOR MENTAL HEALTH

There is evidence that poor mental health and well-being among health professionals impairs quality of patient care. Poor mental health can drive health professionals away from their caregiving roles, increasing the gap between the supply of health professionals and the demand for their services, and leaving some people with no access to healthcare. If we are to address the global health workforce crisis, we must act quickly to prevent poor mental health in health professionals.

## POSITIVE PRACTICE ENVIRONMENTS SUPPORT GOOD MENTAL HEALTH

**It is well established that “good work” is good for mental health.**

The features of “good work” have been defined, and many of these features also define positive practice environments. Examples include autonomy, work-life balance, fair pay, employment security, opportunities for progression and training, appropriate safety measures, and the absence of bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence (see the World Health Professions Alliance factsheet on violence and positive practice environments for healthcare professionals here: [www.positivepracticeenvironments.org](http://www.positivepracticeenvironments.org))

The World Health Organization has called on governments to improve the mental health of health professionals. Yet many other stakeholders can also make a difference, including policy makers, professional bodies, regulators, organizations/employers, managers and researchers, as well as individuals.





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