

KRISTI HUDSON, CPCO

IT'S NOT OKAY

ADDRESSING SEXUAL HARASSMENT





27%



Healthcare's Worst Kept Secret

A 2018 Medscape study surveyed 6235 health care providers and found that 27% of doctors were sexually harassed by patients





75%

Healthcare's Worst Kept Secret

In 1993, researchers in the New England Journal of Medicine reported that up to 75% of female doctors were sexually harassed by patients.





Sexual Victimization by Women...

In 2014, a study was published on the sexual victimization of men, finding that men were much more likely to be the victims of sexual abuse than was thought.

The common one-dimensional stereotype of women as victims reinforces outdated gender stereotypes. The assumption that men are always perpetrators and never victims reinforces unhealthy ideas about men. These stereotypes all too often make male victims feel too embarrassed to report.





50%

Of harassment incidents in healthcare were initiated by patients and their families.



Why is harassment under reported in healthcare?



40%

Did NOT think it would be impactful



21%

Did NOT have time

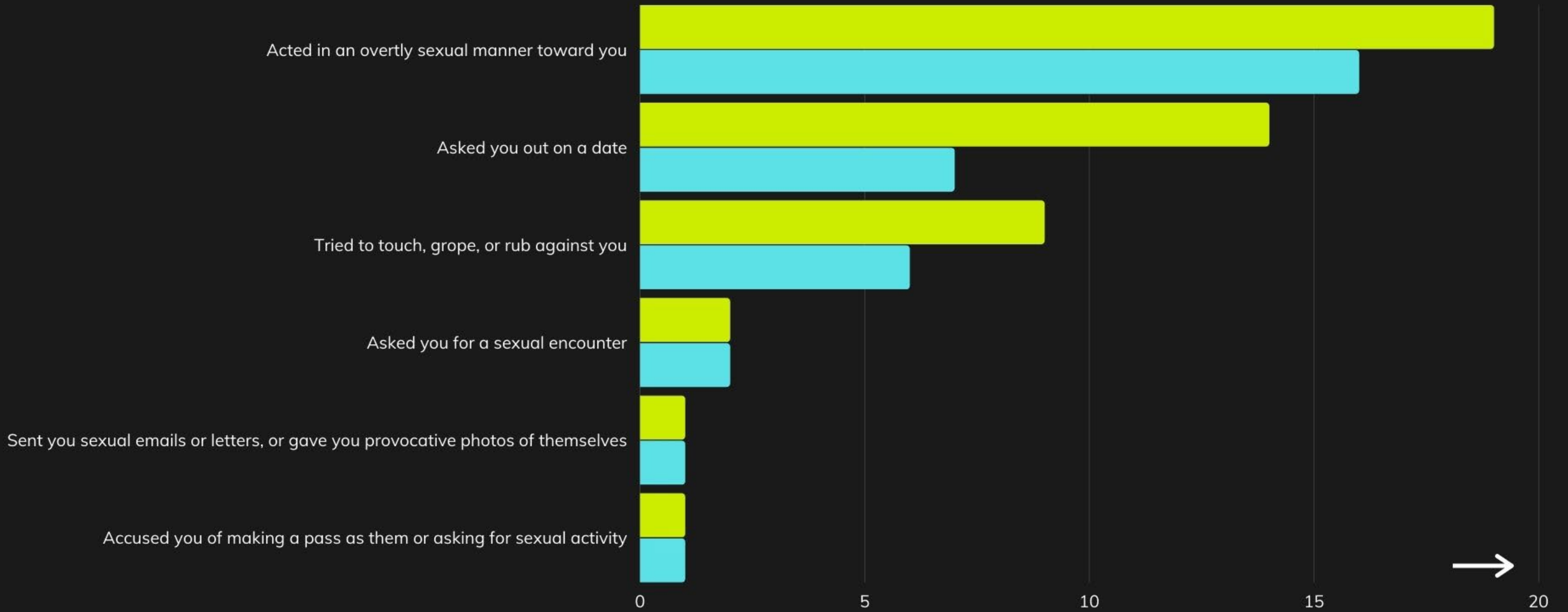


21%

Felta ashamed or embarrassed



Patient Harassment





The first sign of inappropriate behavior is when patient's actions or conversation makes providers uncomfortable. Patients who are making inappropriate comments will first 'test the waters' by making inappropriate jokes or mild comments to gauge your response. If you dismisses the comment, the patient will likely continue with the inappropriate conversation or actions."





Have a ready reply

'We don't tolerate that kind of speech here,' or 'Let's keep it professional,' or 'I'm leaving because I don't feel comfortable' are standard lines. It allows you to call out the objectionable behavior, set a clear limit, and seamlessly move to the task at hand.

Be Firm

Be firm in the face of unacceptable behavior. While in the moment use plain language—no arguments, no apologizing or negotiating.

