

# **A Study on Work-Related Risks of Home Care Assistants in Taiwan's Long-Term Care System for the Elderly**

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## **Abstract**

This research is to examine the tough work experiences and work-related risks faced by home care assistants when on duty. For this purpose, the researcher collected and analyzed qualitative data by interviewing eight home care assistants. Research results show that home care services are full of work-related risk factors including sexual harassment, physical violence, verbal abuse, contagious diseases, occupational injury, and hazardous commuting conditions; These problems force home care assistants into a work environment that is without dignity and full of danger. Thus, based on the research results, the researcher proposes the following guidelines for policy-making related to home care assistant labor standards and the reduction of work-related risks: 1. Enhance the professional image of home care services; 2. Clients and their family members should be given health education prior to receiving services; 3. Risk assessments should be carried out on clients prior to services; 4. The government should use the media to promote the service philosophy and definition of home care; 5. Creating reasonable pay rates for home care assistants; 6. Perfect the support system for home care services.

**Keywords: Home Care, Community Care, Care Industry, Senior Citizen's Welfare, Sexual Harassment**