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Burnout and PCSD: Placing Team At Risk



Warning: This talk discusses heavy subjects around mental health, including PTSD and suicide.

The National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 800-273-8255







Biology impacts psychology. Psychology impacts biology.



You always feel exhausted

Physical health

Struggle to sleep

You suffer from anxiety and depression...suicidal thoughts increase

You get sick often

Your muscles get tight and sore (not in a good way)

Cardiovascular problems increase







PTSD

Avoiding situations or people

Nightmares

Flashbacks

Changes in mood

Easily frustrated



Burnout & PTSD

- Exposure to trauma or extreme stressor
- Respond with fear, hopelessness, horror
- Sleep disturbances and nightmares
- Depression or withdrawal
- Mood changes, generalized irritability
- Avoid activities that promote recall of traumatic event



Post COVID-19 Stress Disorder (PCSD)

- Lack of hope, restriction of movement, grief/loss, and predictability by the pandemic has increased anxiety and depression
- Across the US, suicide idealization and attempts have dramatically increase due to COVID-19
- Increase of substance abuse and relapse has been noted across the US
- PCSD → Post COVID Stress Disorder introduced in 2020 as a result of growing PTSD connected to pandemic impact

How did we get here?

Hint: We are failing employees.



1. Poor leadership

2. Lack of organization caring

3. Role of other workers

4. Politics & Sabotage

5. Lack of organizational resources

6. Overly emphasis on ROI

7. Work overload

8. Poor communication

9. Unethical/illegal requests

10. No vision or direction by change leaders

Top 10 reasons employers cause burnout

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No time to plan.

74% of orgs report having an ad-hoc or no Incident Response (IR) Plans.

52% with plans have no review or testing schedule.94% of the Forbes 2000 list don't have vulnerability disclosure policies



Ignore the human element. Instead throw tools at it!

Organizations use more than 45 different security tools (unknown trust level). IR requires coordination of approx. 19 tools. More tools cause slower remediation time and cost more money.



Takeaway: Your behavior impacts the lives of your employees... and causes terrible security practices.

So be kind and make the following changes.





Leaders need to face their created toxic environments



Step 2

Accept the new.





Take some time off





Support mental health by providing resources.





Be kind and respect boundaries.



Most importantly: we have the power to change our industry and make it better.

Please don't forget that.



Thank you for existing!

Feel free to reach out @ChloeMessdaghi

