Amy Zeidan, MD
Emory University
2020 SAEMF/Academy for Women in Academic Emergency Medicine (AWAEM) Research Grant- $5,000
"Barriers to Reporting Incidents of Gender and Sexual Harassment in Training and Practice (BRIGHT)"

Reports of gender and sexual harassment continue to exist at a high rate. A systematic review and meta-analysis evaluating harassment in medical training revealed that nearly 60% of medical trainees reported sexual harassment or discrimination during their training. Few studies to date have evaluated why individuals do not report and barriers to reporting. Although individual stories and anecdotes can help guide interventions, understanding barriers to reporting from a range of perspectives is essential in moving forward with strategies to eliminate sexual harassment.

The goal of the study is to understand perceived barriers to reporting sexual or gender harassment among emergency department providers.

There is no formal hypothesis testing in qualitative research. We anticipate that emergency department providers will describe a number of barriers to reporting.

We propose an in-depth interview study of emergency medicine attending physicians and residents to better understand a range of barriers to reporting sexual and gender harassment. Specifically, we hope to explore perceived barriers to reporting, reasons an individual may not report, and if possible, understand rationale for not reporting among individuals who may have had the potential to report.