Health workers have been at the forefront of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the experiences of women health workers have been unique and often challenging. Women in Global Health gathered perspectives on the gendered impacts of the pandemic on health systems and workers, focusing on areas such as remuneration, protection, and mental health. They called on governments to prioritize women in pandemic preparedness efforts.

Key findings include:

- Women contribute significantly to essential services, particularly in areas such as community care, food services, and transportation.
- Women are leading in many roles, but often face gendered challenges, including underpayment and lack of protective equipment.
- The pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing gender inequities, with women facing increased stress and burnout.

Women in Global Health recommendations for governments include:

- Prioritize women health workers in all future pandemic preparedness efforts.
- Develop and implement policies and procedures with zero tolerance for workplace violence.
- Improve the coordination and dissemination of information.
- Invest in innovative, collaborative, and gender-responsive research.

These recommendations aim to ensure that women health workers are supported and protected in future pandemics.