



How can we fight stigma in health care?

Could bias keep physicians from providing quality care to patients with obesity or mental illness? Could such bias also deter patients from seeking care? Join the *AMA Journal of Ethics* discussion forum for a conversation with students and experts across the country about stigmas in health care. [Sign up now](http://ama-journal-ethics-discussion-forum.org) (ama-journal-ethics-discussion-forum.org) for this month's discussions:

- **March 8–15: Weight stigma in health care**
More than one-third of Americans are considered to be obese and face a broad range of health problems. But studies show that physicians treat patients who are not obese with greater care and empathy, yet fail to refer patients with obesity for necessary diagnostic tests.
- **March 15–22: Stigma toward patients with mental illness**
Numerous studies have shown that patients with mental illness die prematurely and have many associated physical health problems. But clinicians are less likely to refer patients with a mental health diagnosis for important diagnostic tests.



AMA Journal of Ethics
Discussion Forum