Impact of Weight Stigma on Healthcare

Clinician weight bias
- Negative stereotypes
- Insensitive language
- Banal weight loss advice
- Attribute obesity solely to individual choices
- Assume all symptoms due to weight

Patient reactions
- Feel disrespected
- Feel blamed and judged
- Lower trust in healthcare professionals
- Anticipate different treatment
- Ambivalence in using health services

Effects on patient care
- Poorer patient-clinician communication
- Reduced quality of care
- Poorer treatment adherence
- Increased clinical attrition
- Delay and avoidance of care

Relevant Published Research Citations
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