

STIGMA REDUCTION AS HARM REDUCTION



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Stigma refers to the negative process of being held in contempt or shunned because of collective disapproval¹⁻⁵

Forms of Stigma^{21,22}



Social

Societal marginalization of a group of people



Self

Internalization of social messages



Structural

Policies and rules targeting a group of people





Impacts of Stigma

- Lag in treatment seeking²³
- Reduction in quality of Medical Care¹⁴⁻¹⁶
- Medication Assisted Treatment underutilization¹⁹
- Criminal justice related stigma¹⁸
- Unemployment rates are 15-35% higher¹⁷



Steps to Take In Policy to Reduce Stigma Toward SUD



1

**Address
Insurance Barriers
to Medication
Assisted
Treatment**

2

**Work Force
Development
Policy Change
Regarding
Disclosures**

3

**Targeted
Education on
Substance Use
Disorders, MAT**

4

Fund Stigma Intervention Research and Practice

Stigma Reduction

is

Harm Reduction

Questions:

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