

Obesity, stigma, and responsibility in health care: A synthesis of qualitative studies

This review aims to synthesize research findings on experiences and attitudes about obesity and stigma in health care.

Qualitative studies were collated and analysed via Noblitt & Hare's meta ethnography. A total of 13 studies investigating experiences and attitudes about obesity and stigma in health care settings were collated and reviewed.

Studies were analysed according to the 3 themes: (1) Lifestyle advice experienced as humiliating, (2) segregation due to weight norms, and (3) derogatory comments.

The study reveals how stigmatising attitudes are enacted by health care providers and perceived by patients with obesity. It was revealed that patients living with obesity often find their healthcare provider's advice patronising and are treated with contempt as if deserved. Views between providers and patients with obesity on responsibility varied.

Malterud, Kirsti, and Kjersti Ulriksen. "Obesity, Stigma, and Responsibility in Health Care: A Synthesis of Qualitative Studies." *International Journal of Qualitative Studies on Health and Well-Being*, vol. 6, no. 4, Jan. 2011, p. 8404,
www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3223414/, 10.3402/qhw.v6i4.8404.